



MARVEL
COMICS

NON-MUTANT MAYHEM!

The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH
THE PUNISHER

\$1.00 US
\$1.25 CAN
331
APR

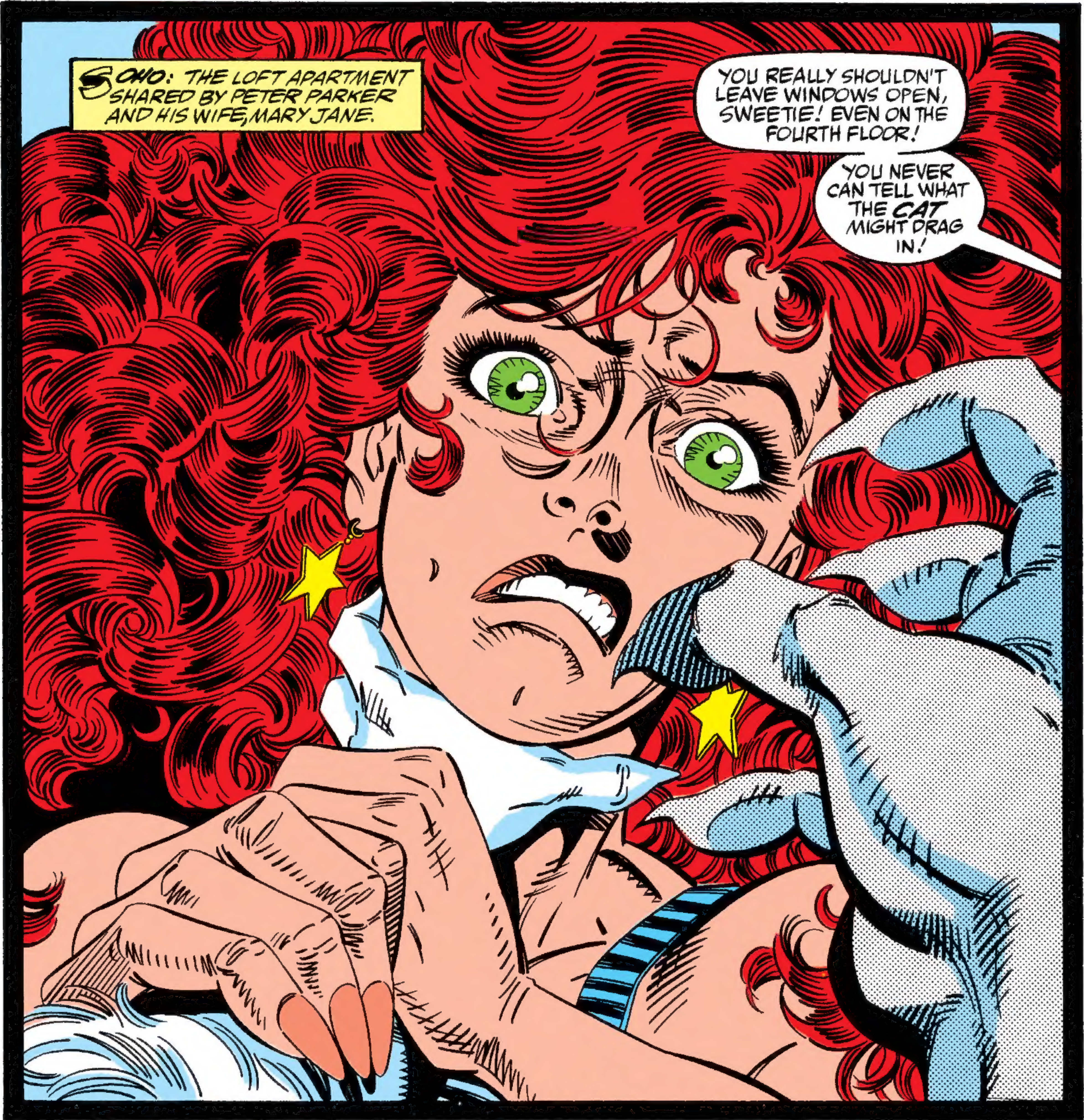
APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

HEAVY METAL
MASSACRE!

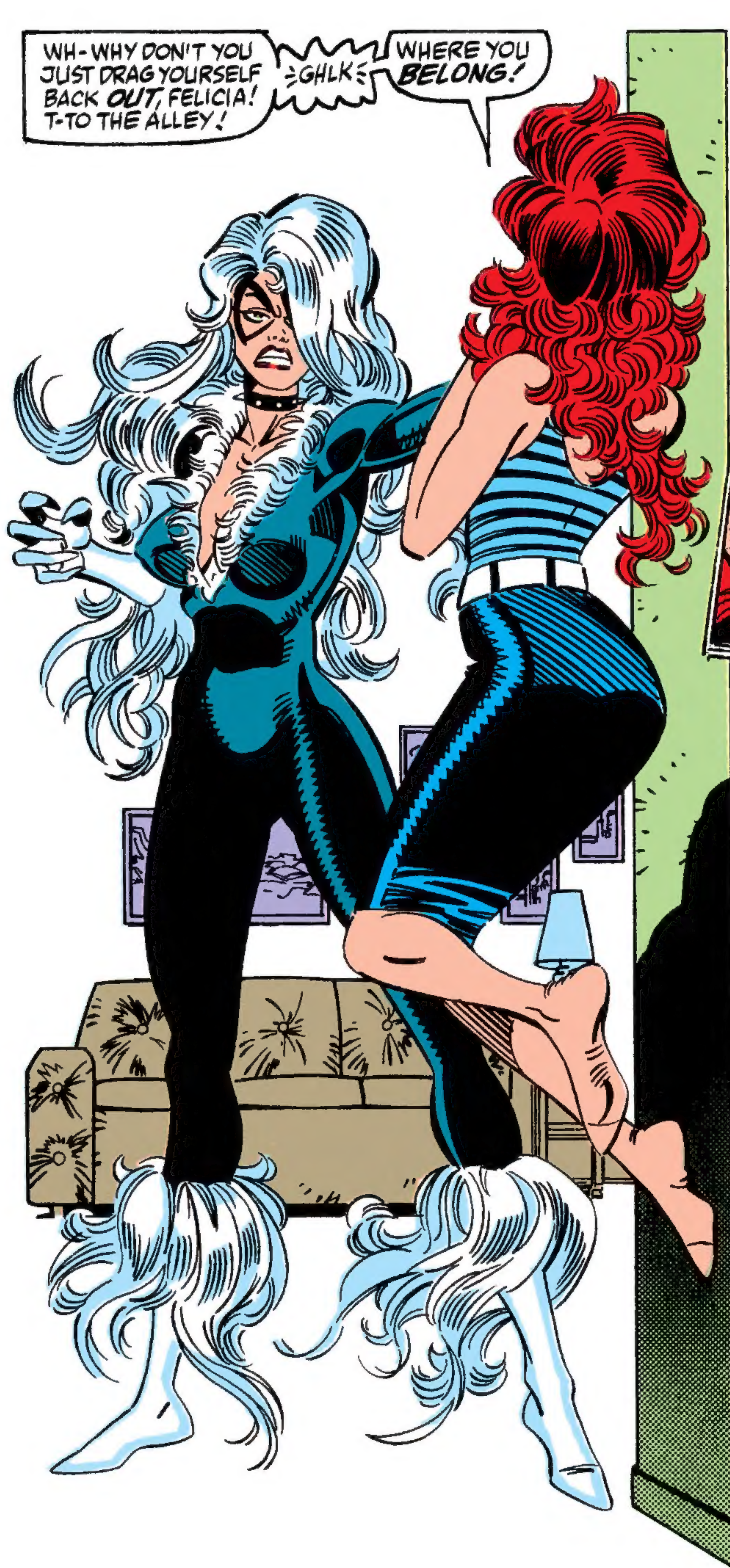
ERIK
LAFER
AND
JOSHI



THE DEATH STANDARD

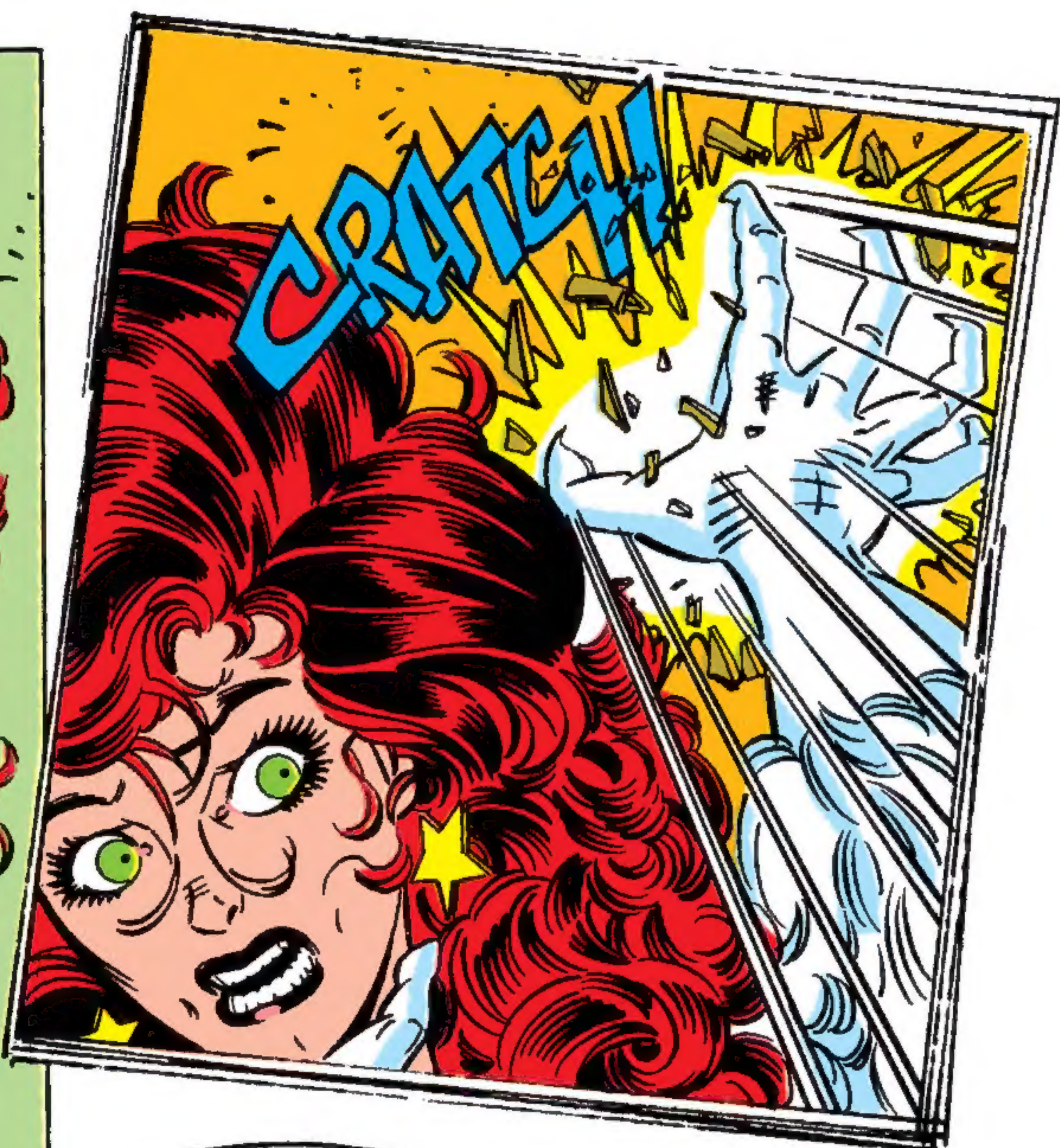


DAVID MICHELINIE WRITER ERIK LARSEN PENCILER MIKE MACHLAN INKER RICK PARKER LETTERER BOB SHAREN COLORIST JIM SALICRUP EDITOR TOM DeFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF



WH-WHY DON'T YOU
JUST DRAG YOURSELF
BACK OUT, FELICIA!
T-TO THE ALLEY!

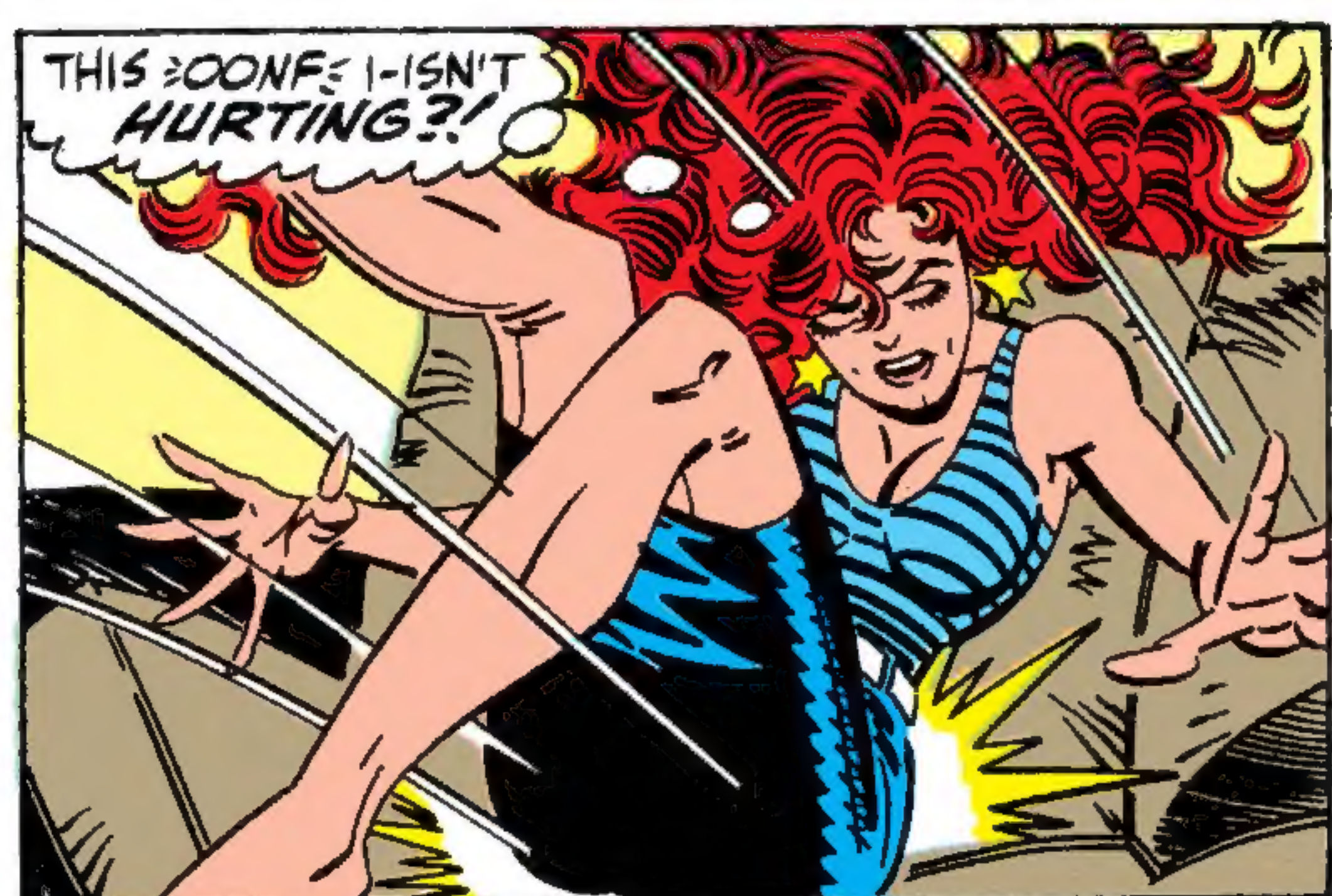
GHK
WHERE YOU
BELONG!



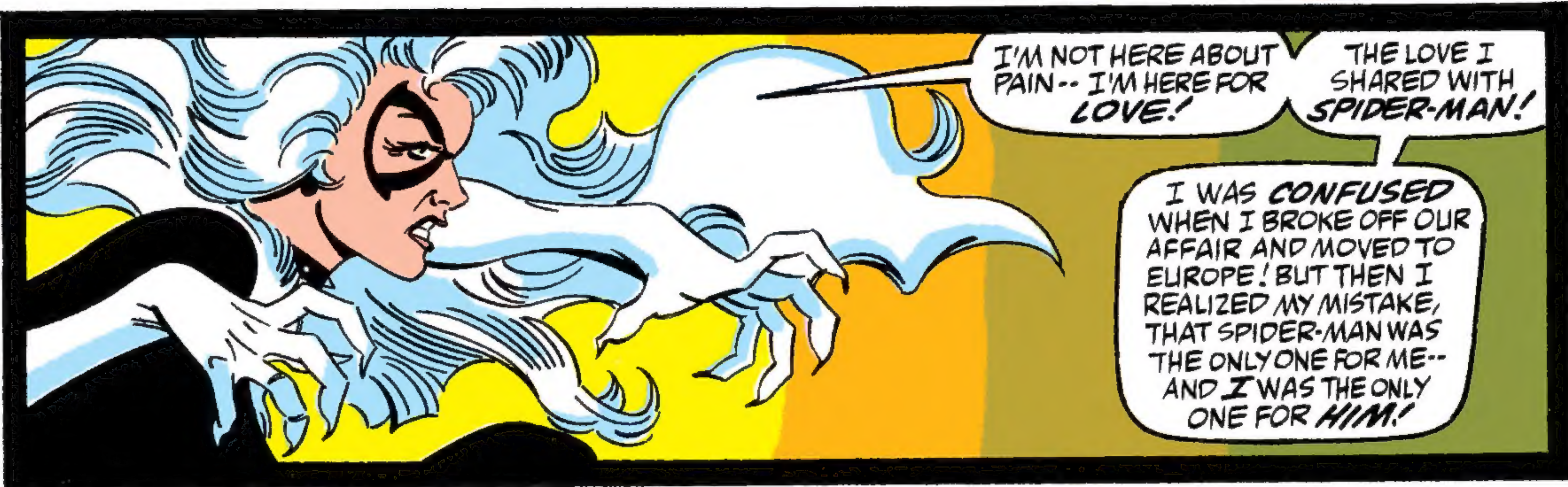
NO, I WON'T
HURT YOU.



THE BLACK
CAT IS ABOVE THAT
SORT OF THING!



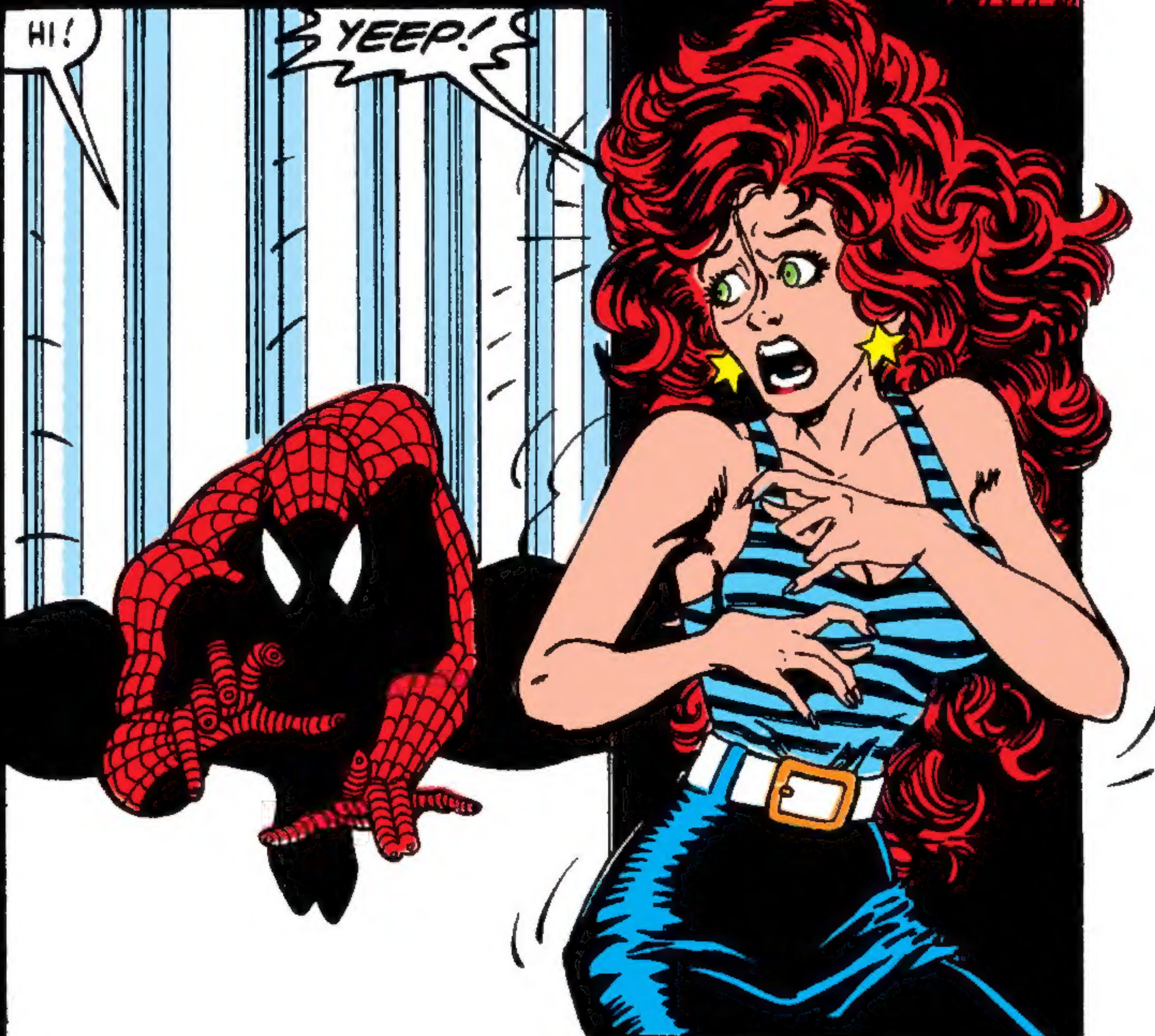
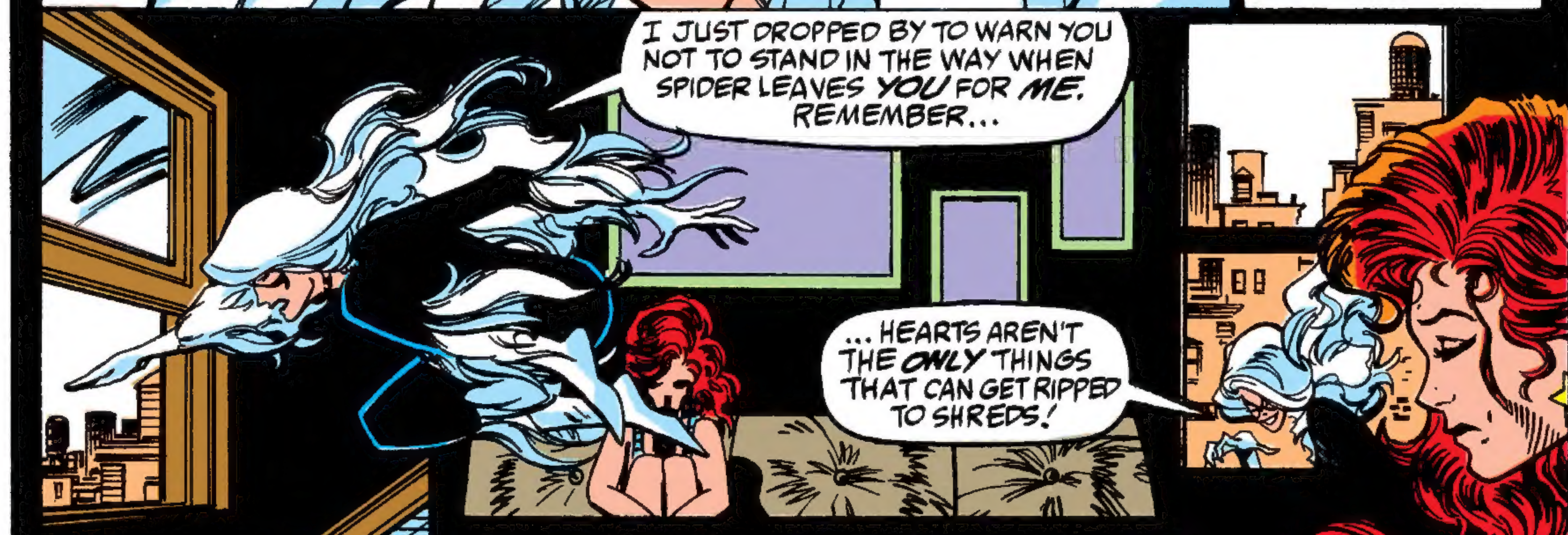
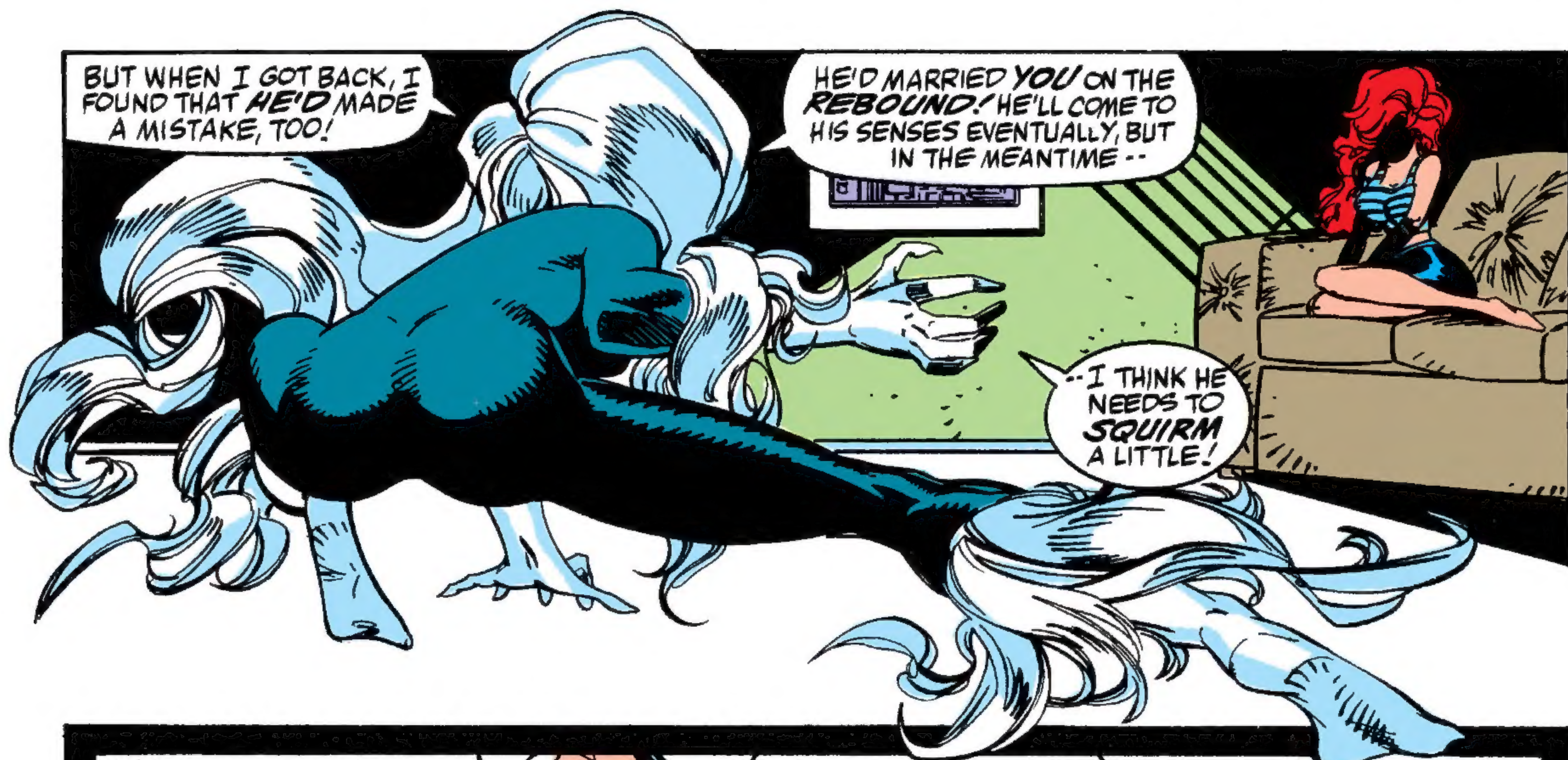
THIS OONF I-ISN'T
HURTING?!

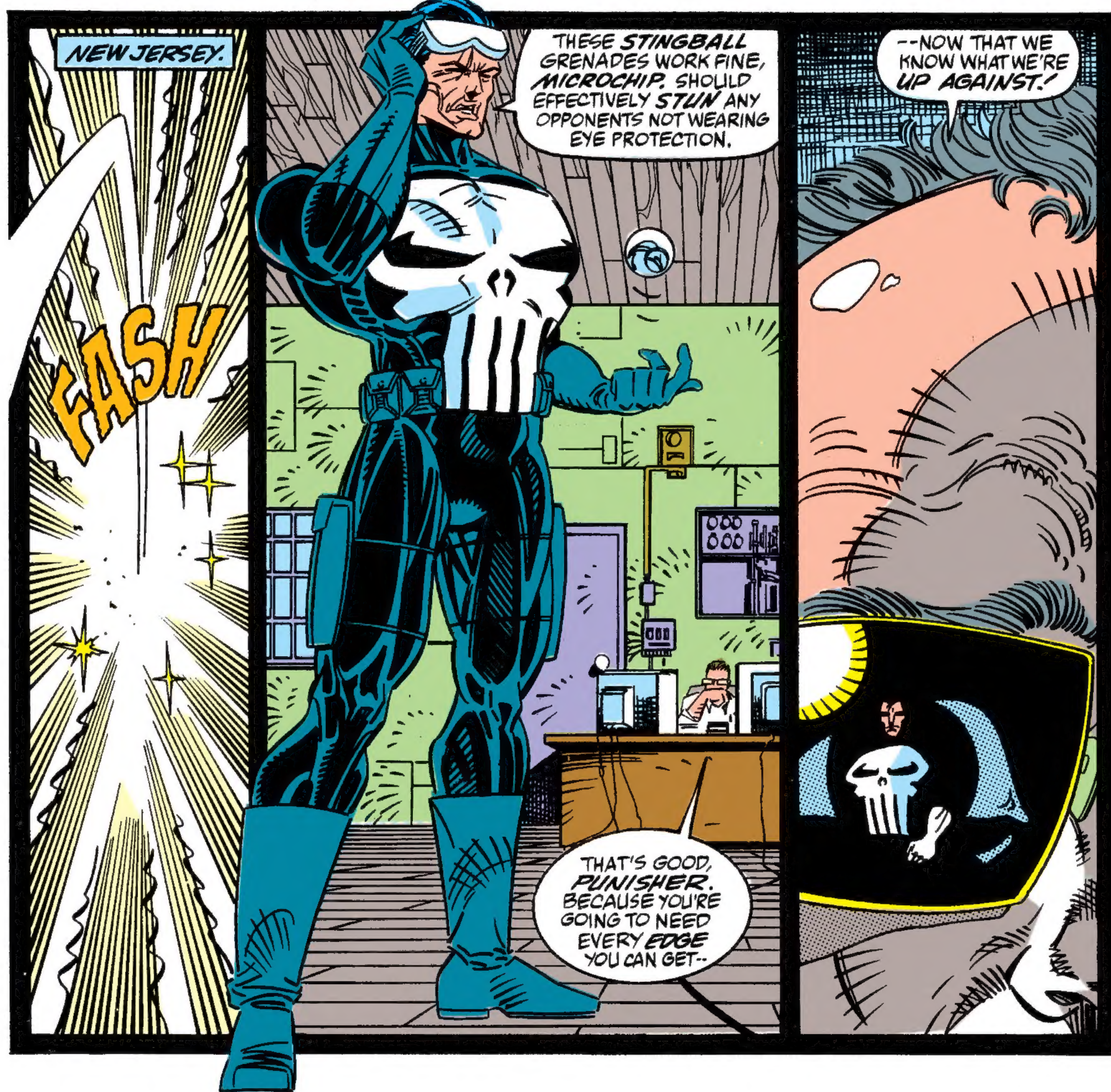
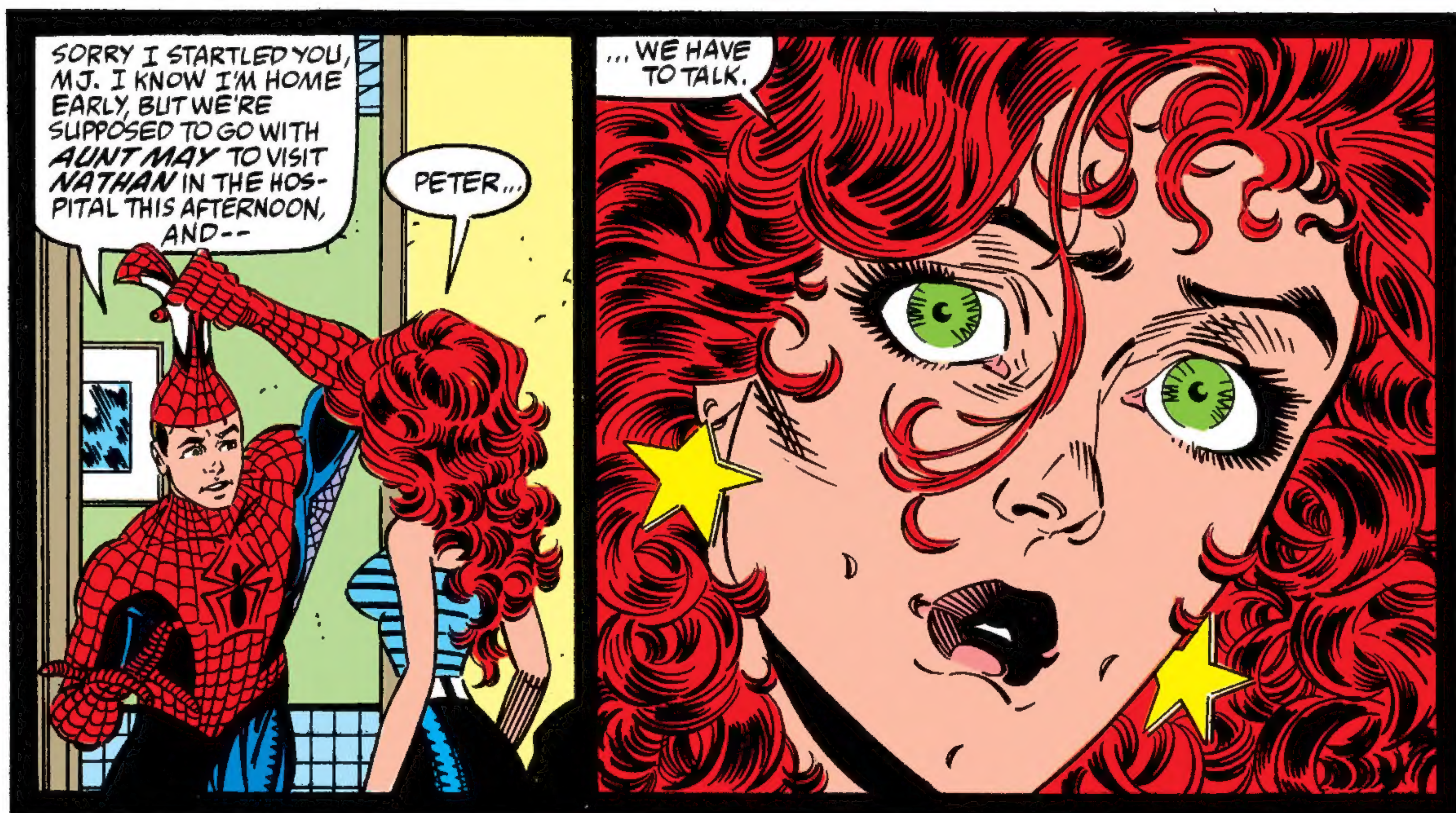


I'M NOT HERE ABOUT
PAIN-- I'M HERE FOR
LOVE!

THE LOVE I
SHARED WITH
SPIDER-MAN!

I WAS **CONFUSED**
WHEN I BROKE OFF OUR
AFFAIR AND MOVED TO
EUROPE! BUT THEN I
REALIZED MY MISTAKE,
THAT SPIDER-MAN WAS
THE ONLY ONE FOR ME--
AND I WAS THE ONLY
ONE FOR **HIM!**





YES, OUR INVESTIGATION DID TAKE AN *UNEXPECTED* TURN, DIDN'T IT? WE KNEW THAT HUGE AMOUNTS OF COCAINE WERE BEING SHIPPED FROM COLOMBIA, BUT NONE OF IT WAS HITTING THE *STREETS*.

WE THOUGHT WE'D TUMBLLED ONTO A POWERFUL NEW DRUG LORD. BUT YOUR COMPUTER PROBES, AND MY *HANDS-ON* EFFORTS, SHOWED THAT THE POWER *BEHIND* THAT HOARDING IS ACTUALLY--

-- THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT!

I JUST HOPE OUR LEADS PAN OUT SOON. EVEN WITH *SPIDER-MAN* JOINING THE GAME, WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST.

WHOEVER'S STASHED THAT COKE HAS ENOUGH POWDER TO DESTROY *MILLIONS* OF LIVES!

COLORADO: THE SUPER-PRISON KNOWN AS "THE VAULT."

-- THIS STIFF'S JUST TOO *WEIRD*! I MEAN, WASN'T HE THE GUY WHO BONDED WITH THAT *ALIEN SYMBIOTE*? TURNED INTO THE MANIAC CALLED *VENOM*? THE ONE WITH A REAL MAD-ON FOR *SPIDER-MAN*?

YEP, *EDDIE BROCK*. SAVED THE WORLD A TON O' GRIEF WHEN HE OFFED *HIMSELF*!

ODD THING WAS, THEY NEVER FOUND THE *ALIEN*. THERE WAS NOTHING IN THE CELL BUT BROCK'S CORPSE, AND THE COVER-ALLS HE USED TO *HANG* HIMSELF. AH, WELL...

-- HNH? THE BLOOD! I--IT'S *BLACK*! IT'S--

-- *ALIVE*!?!

NORMALLY, I FIND AUTOPSIES *RELAXING*, BUT--

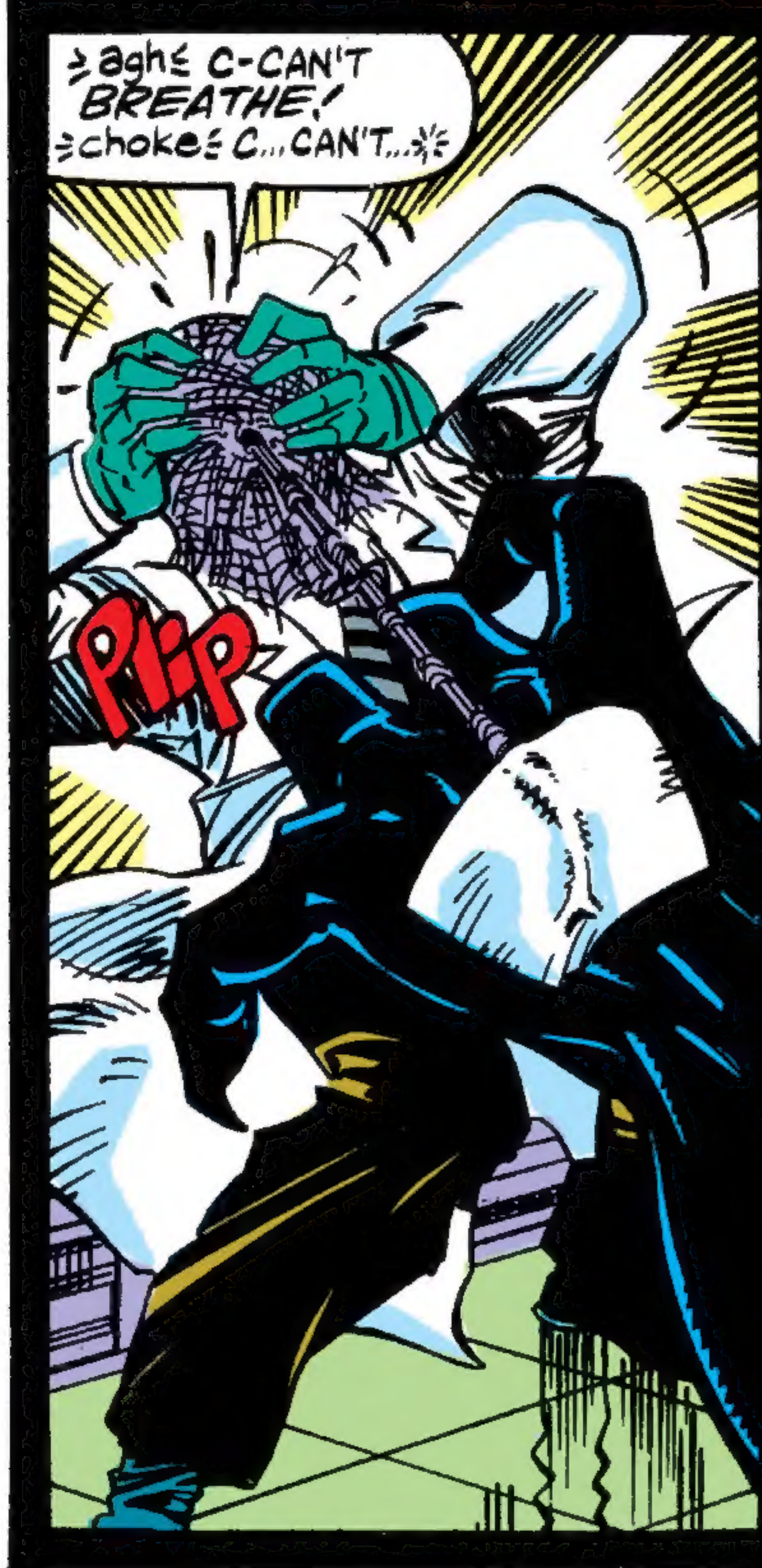
BEGINNING LATERAL INCISION TO CENTER LINE EPIDERMAL --

AND IT'S NOT THE *ONLY* ONE!



EEP

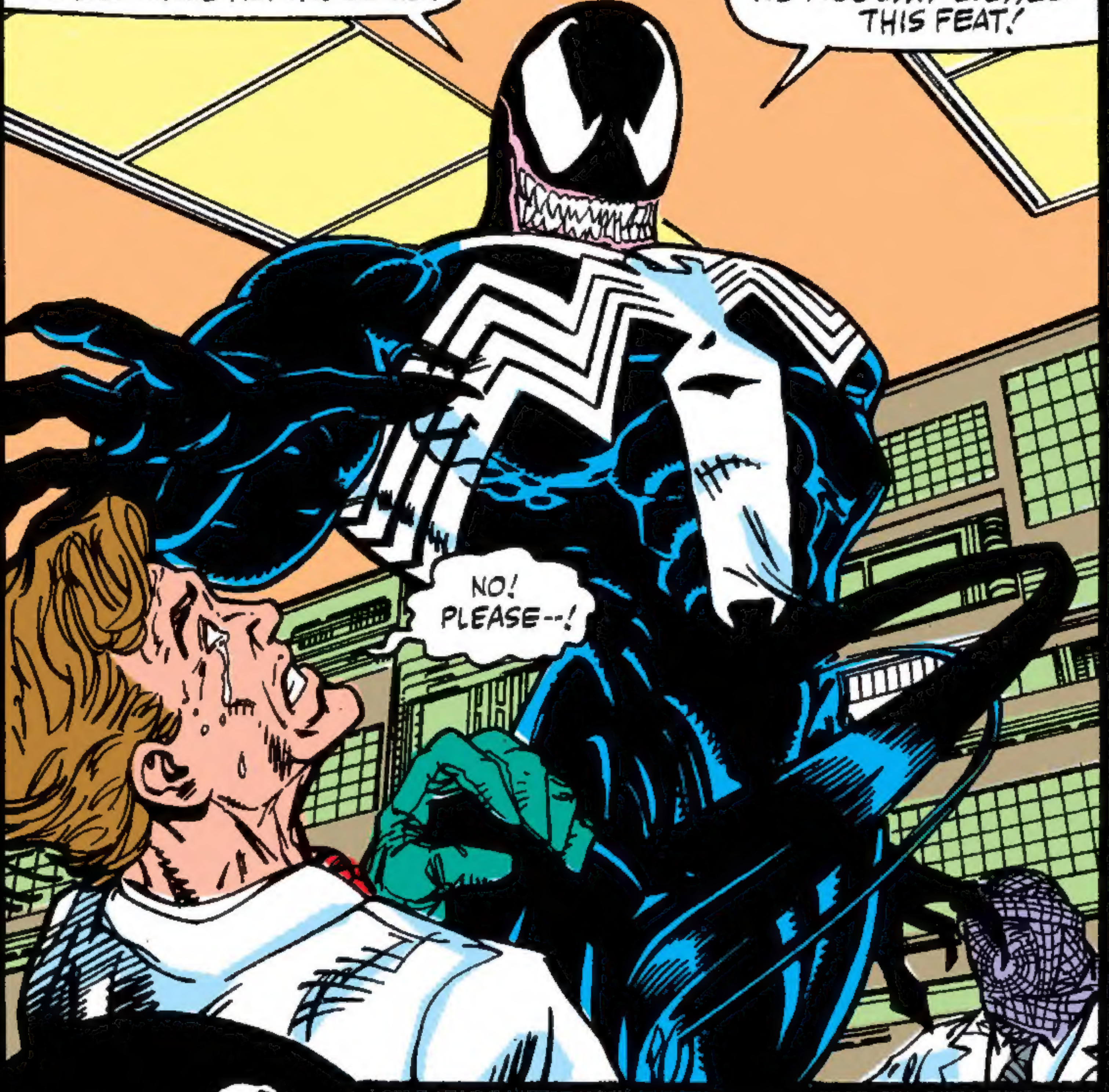
LEGGO! L-LEGGO MY HAND!



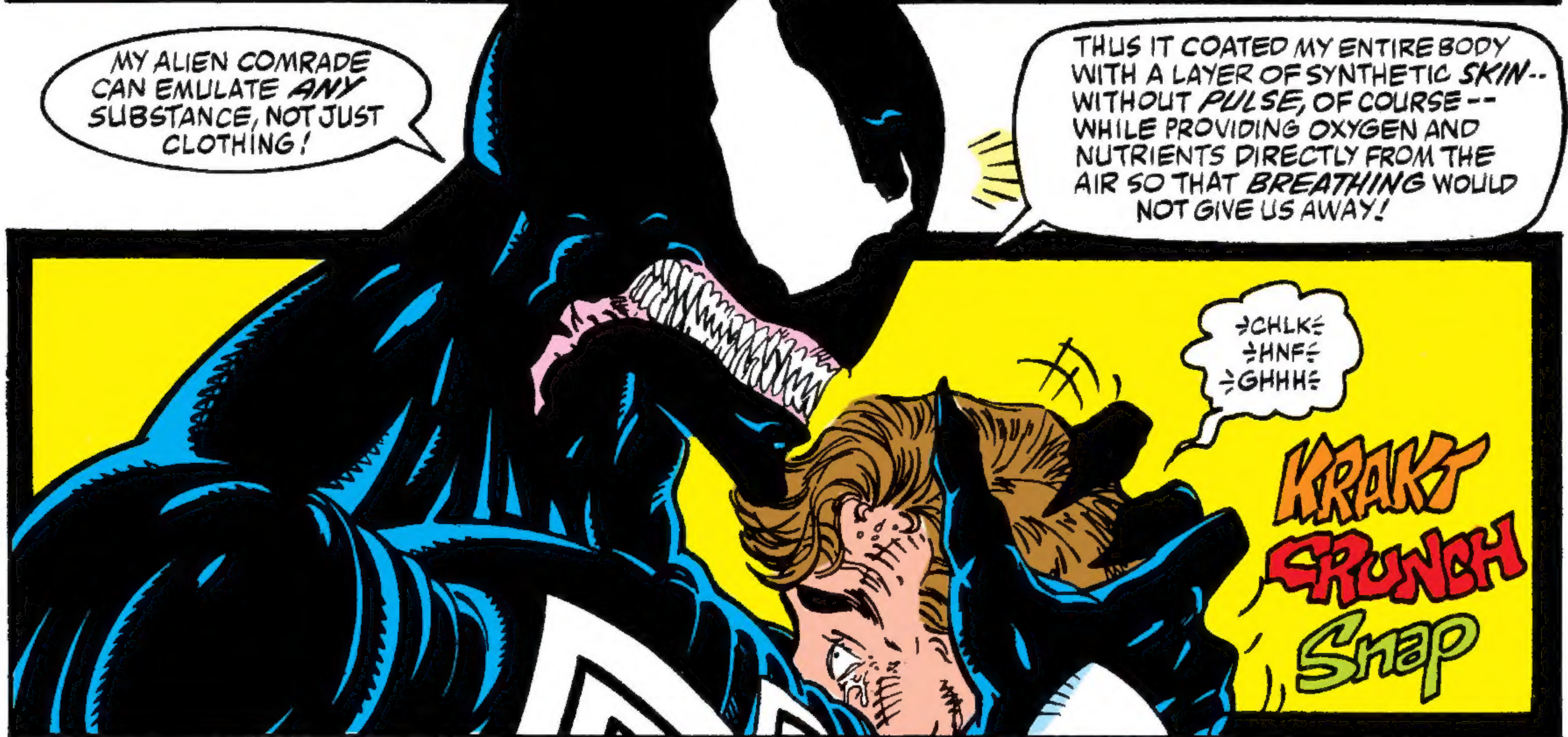
agh C-CAN'T BREATHE!
choke C... CAN'T...!

HOW INVIGORATING TO BE FREE ONCE AGAIN! COME!

LET US TELL YOU HOW WE ACCOMPLISHED THIS FEAT!



NO! PLEASE--!

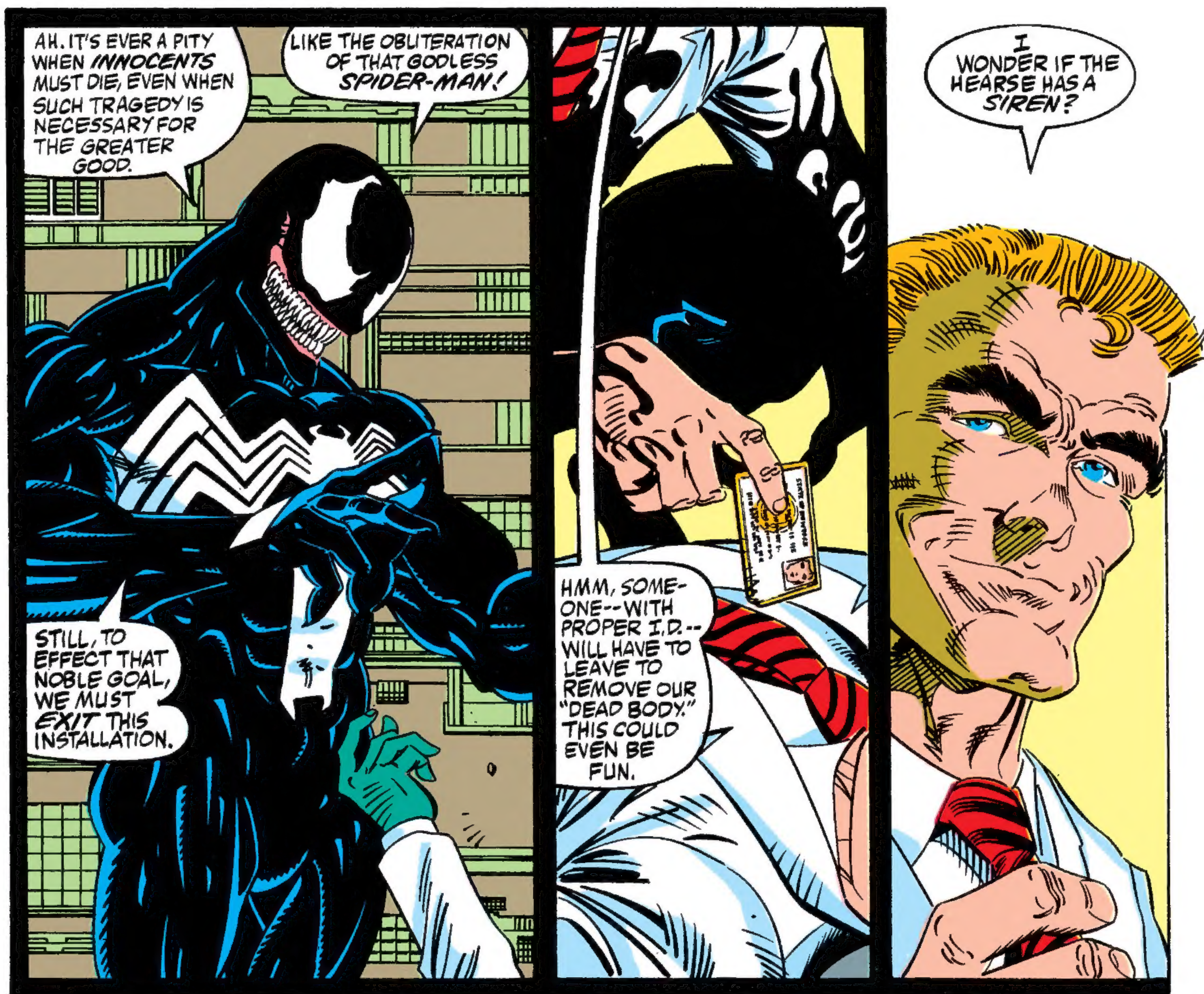


MY ALIEN COMRADE CAN EMULATE ANY SUBSTANCE, NOT JUST CLOTHING!

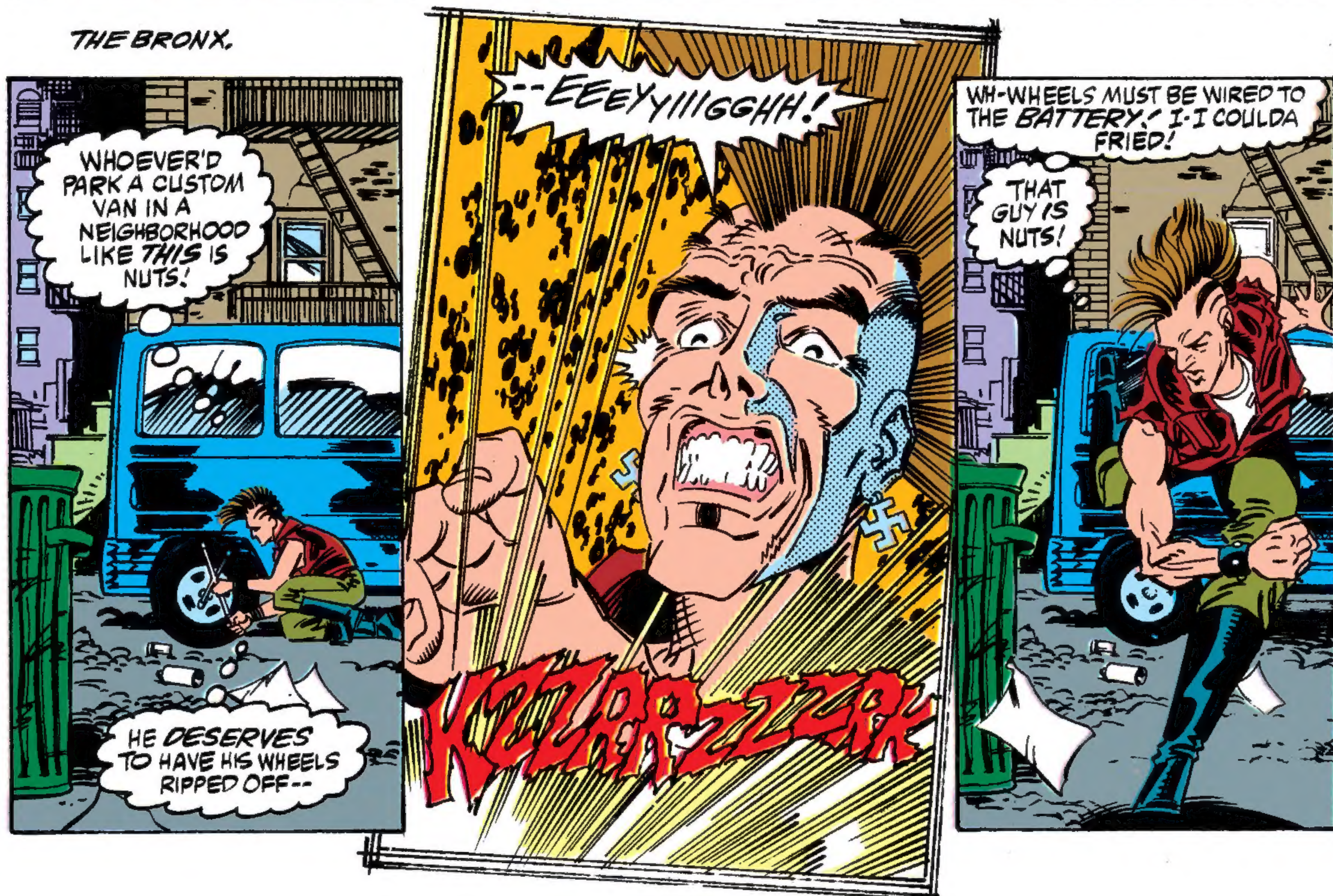
THUS IT COATED MY ENTIRE BODY WITH A LAYER OF SYNTHETIC SKIN.. WITHOUT PULSE, OF COURSE -- WHILE PROVIDING OXYGEN AND NUTRIENTS DIRECTLY FROM THE AIR SO THAT BREATHING WOULD NOT GIVE US AWAY!

CHLKE
SHNF
GHHH

KRAKT
CRUNCH
Snap



THE BRONX.



THE VAN.

FORGET FELICIA,
ALREADY! CONCENTRATE
ON THE JOB AT HAND!

YOU SURE
YOU'VE GOT
THE RIGHT
PLACE?

MY ASSOCIATE
TRACED FALSE
REQUISITIONS AND
MOVEMENTS OF
"SUPPLIES" THAT
COINCIDE WITH KNOWN
DRUG SHIPMENTS.

THEY ALL LEAD TO A
MILITARY INSTALLATION
IN UPSTATE NEW YORK.
ODDS ARE WE'LL FIND
WHAT WE WANT THERE.

I NOTICE YOU'VE
STOCKED UP ON
NON-LETHAL
WEAPONS.

ALREADY
MADE THIS
MONTH'S
KILL QUOTA?

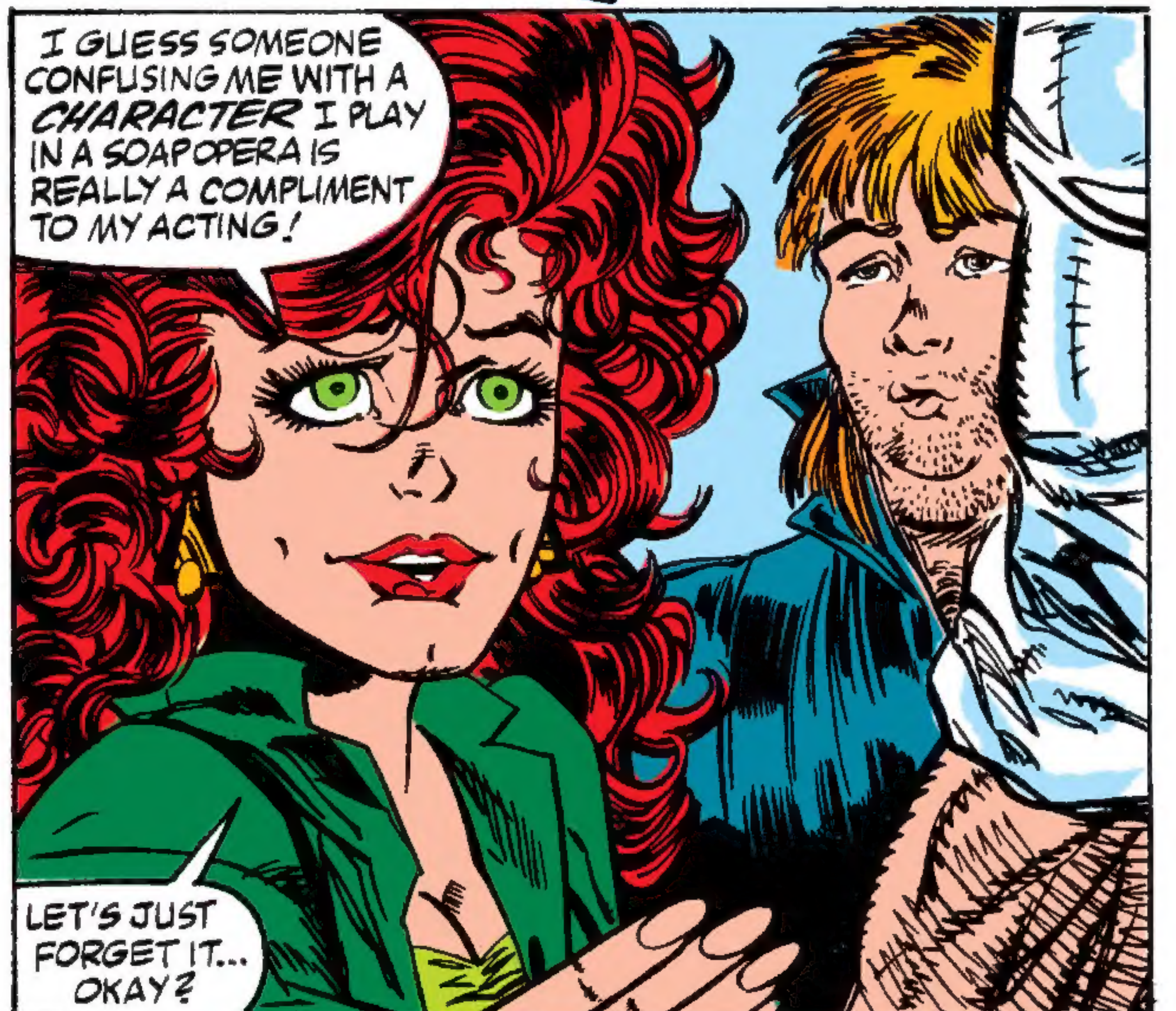
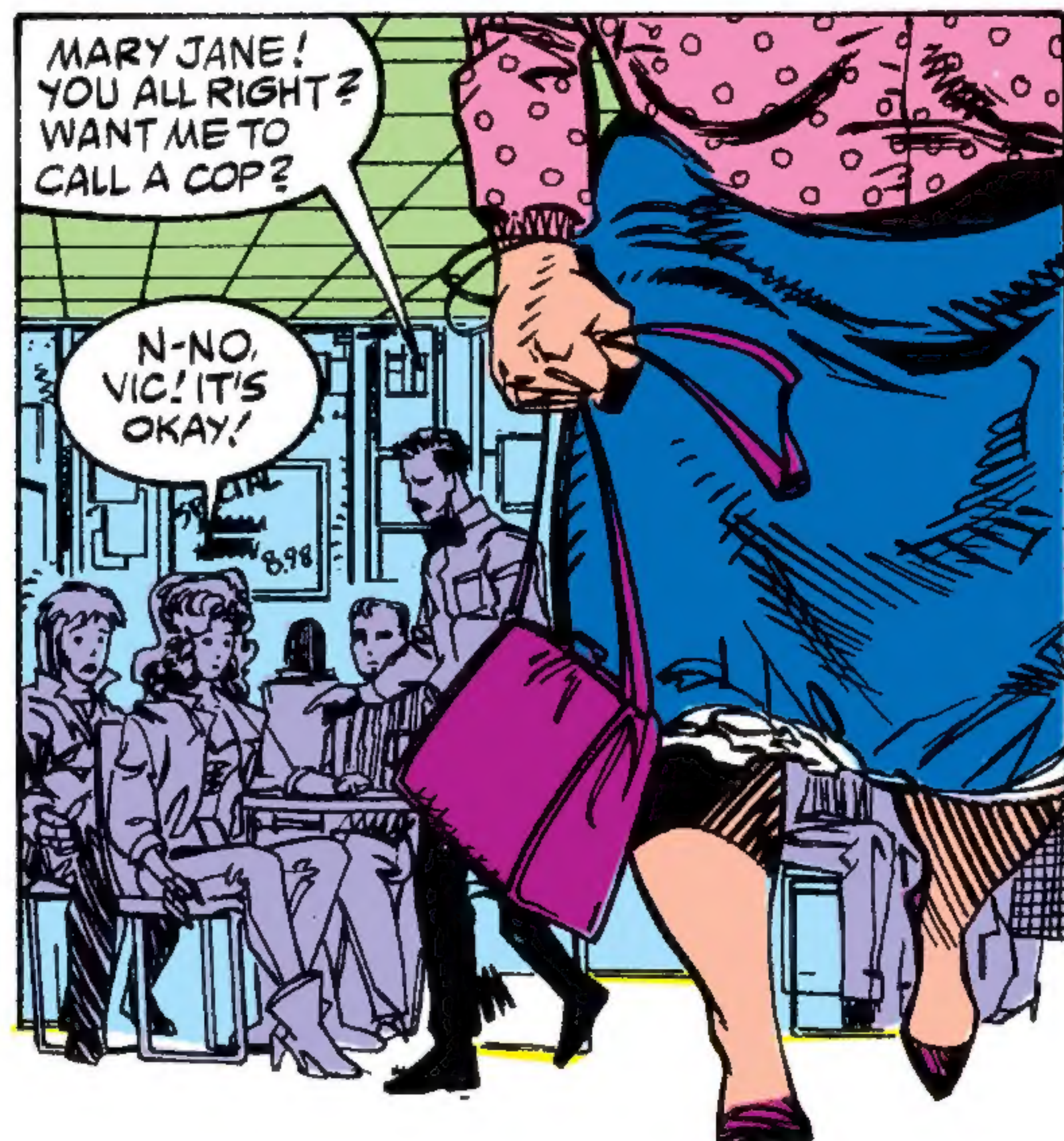
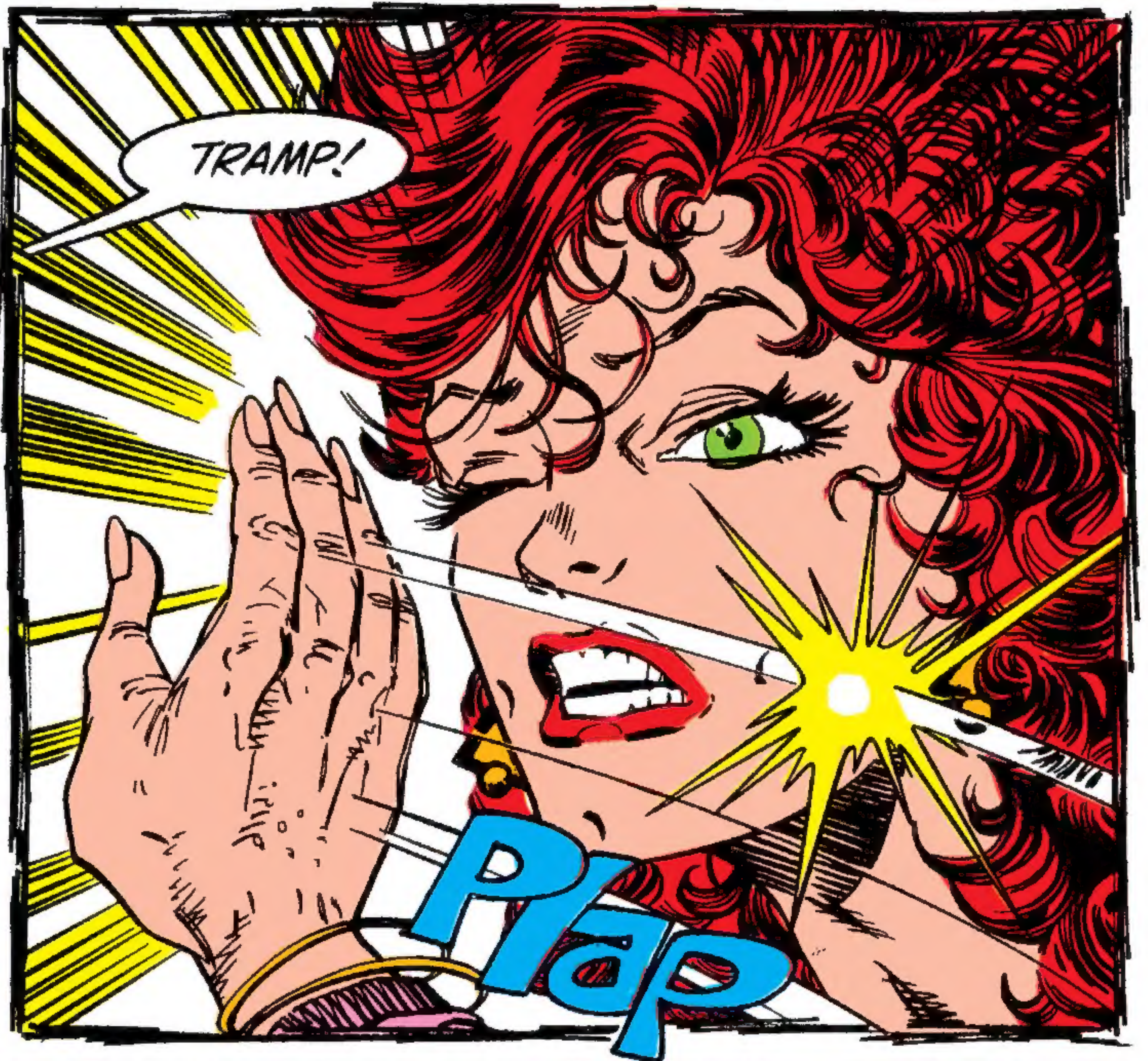
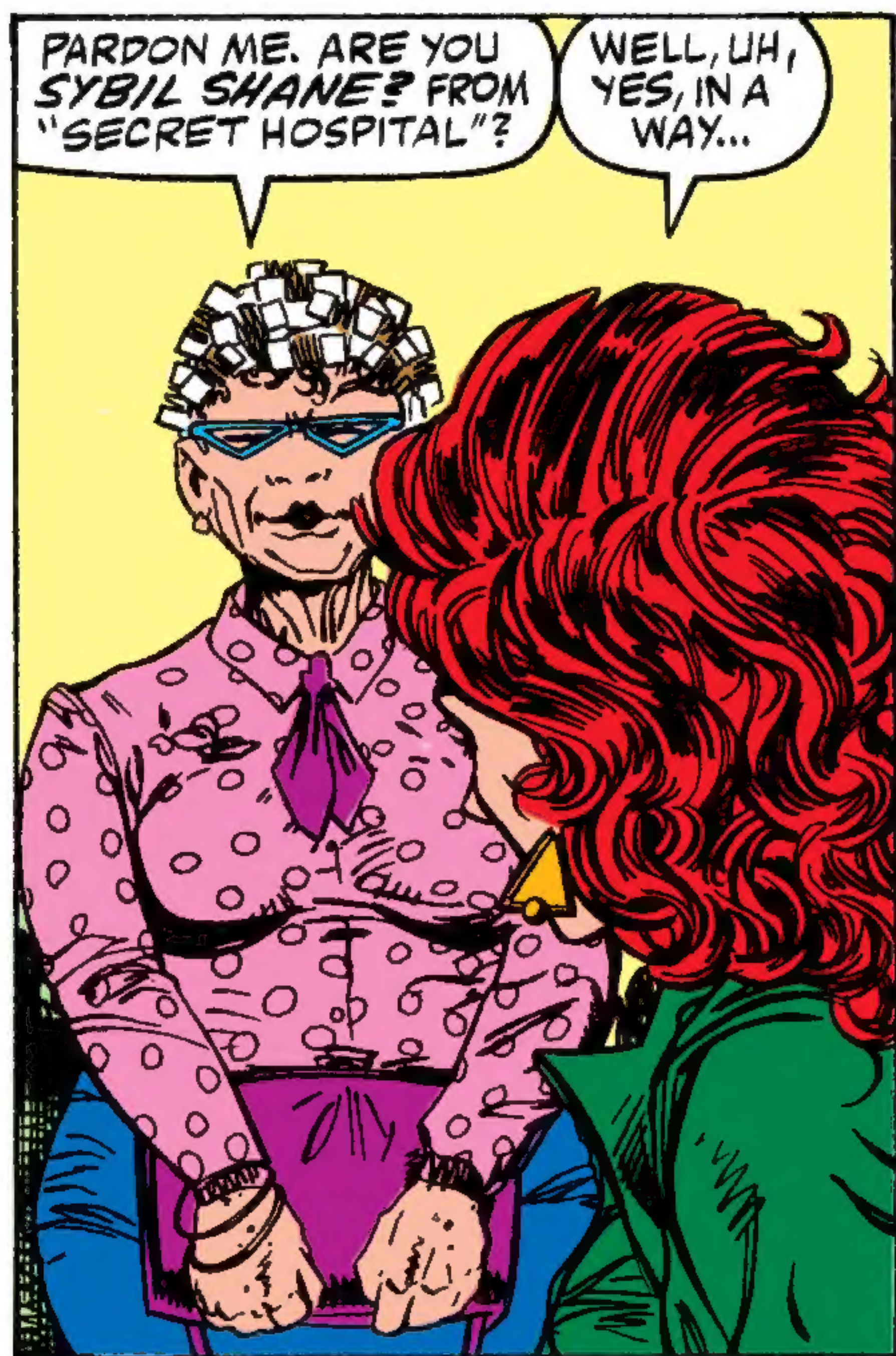
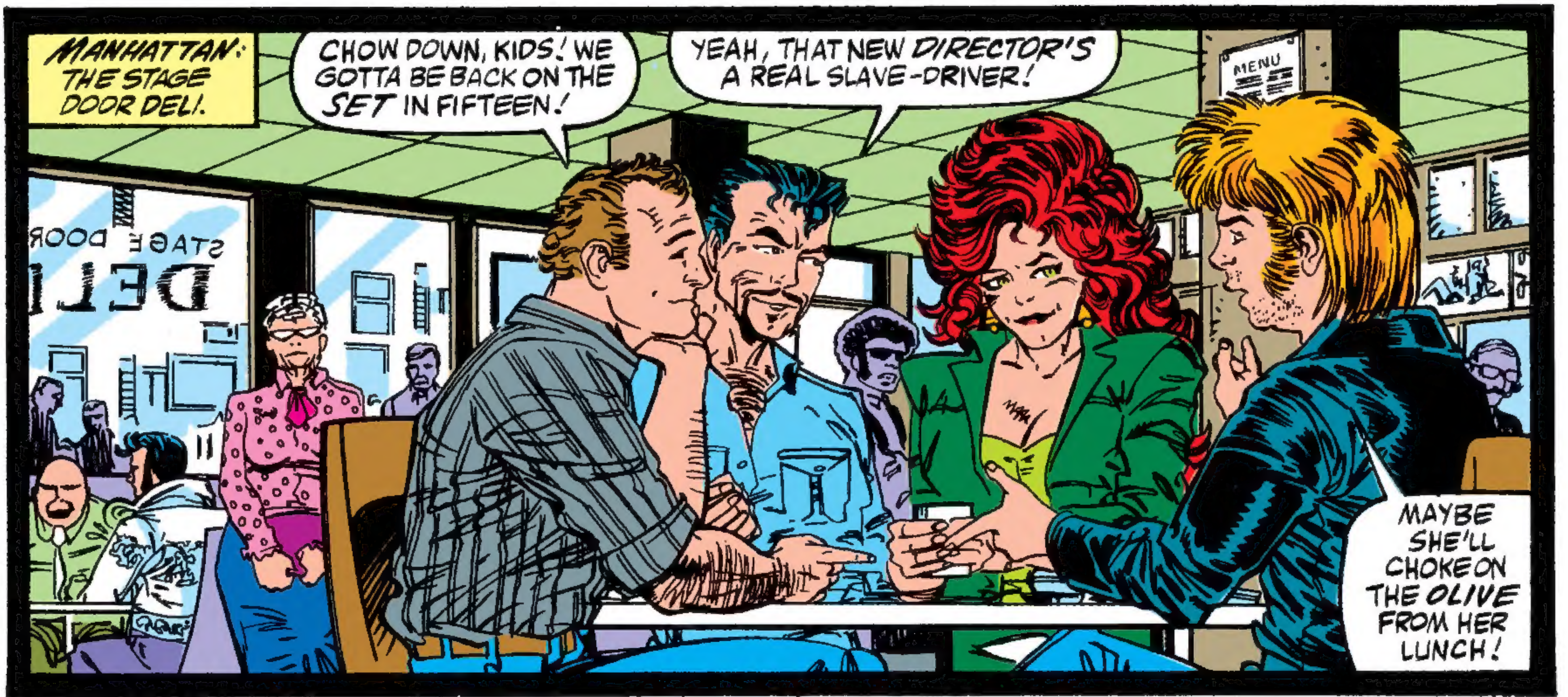
WHEN I GO AGAINST THE
MOB, I'VE NO COMPUNC-
TIONS ABOUT USING THEIR
OWN METHODS AGAINST
THEM.

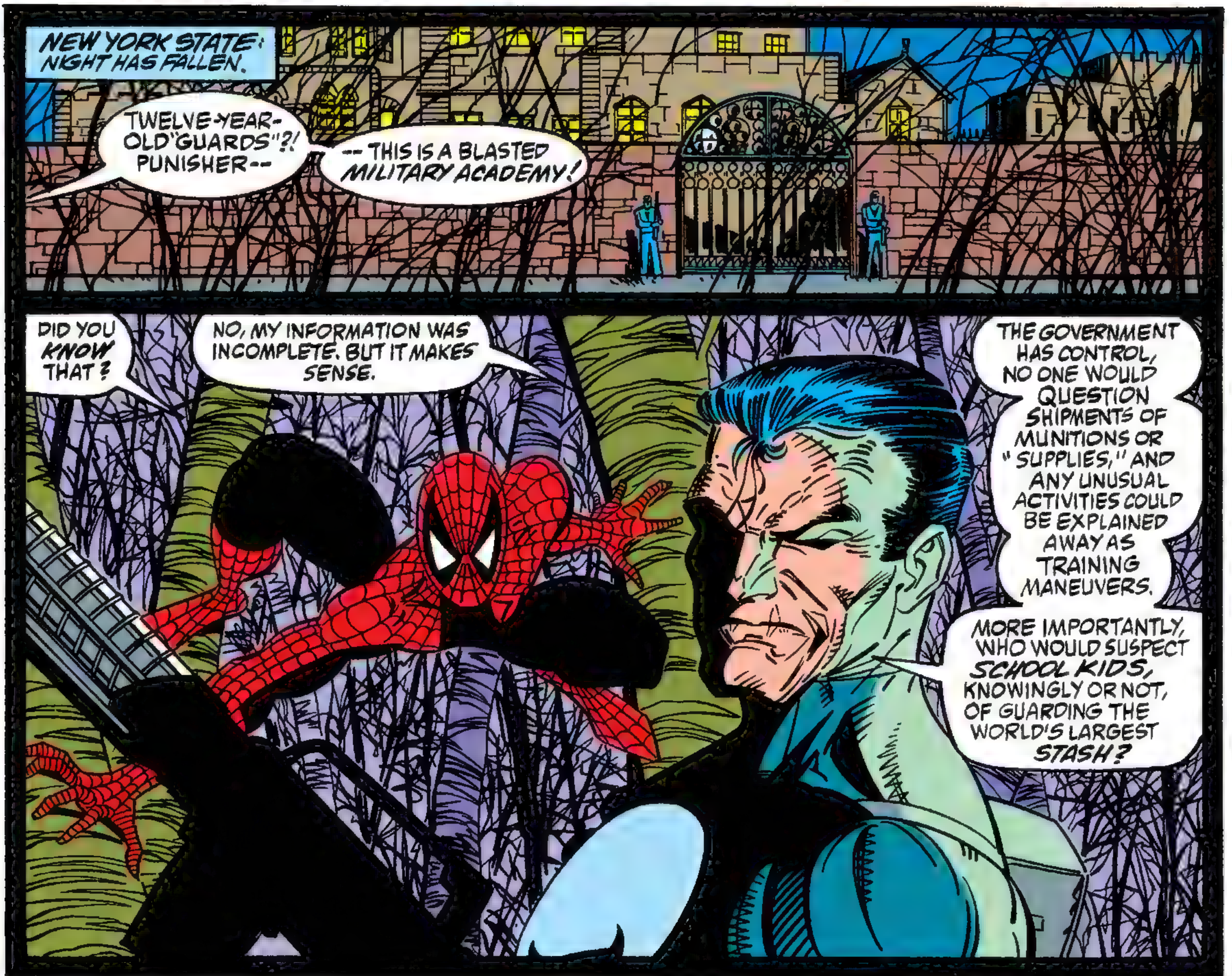
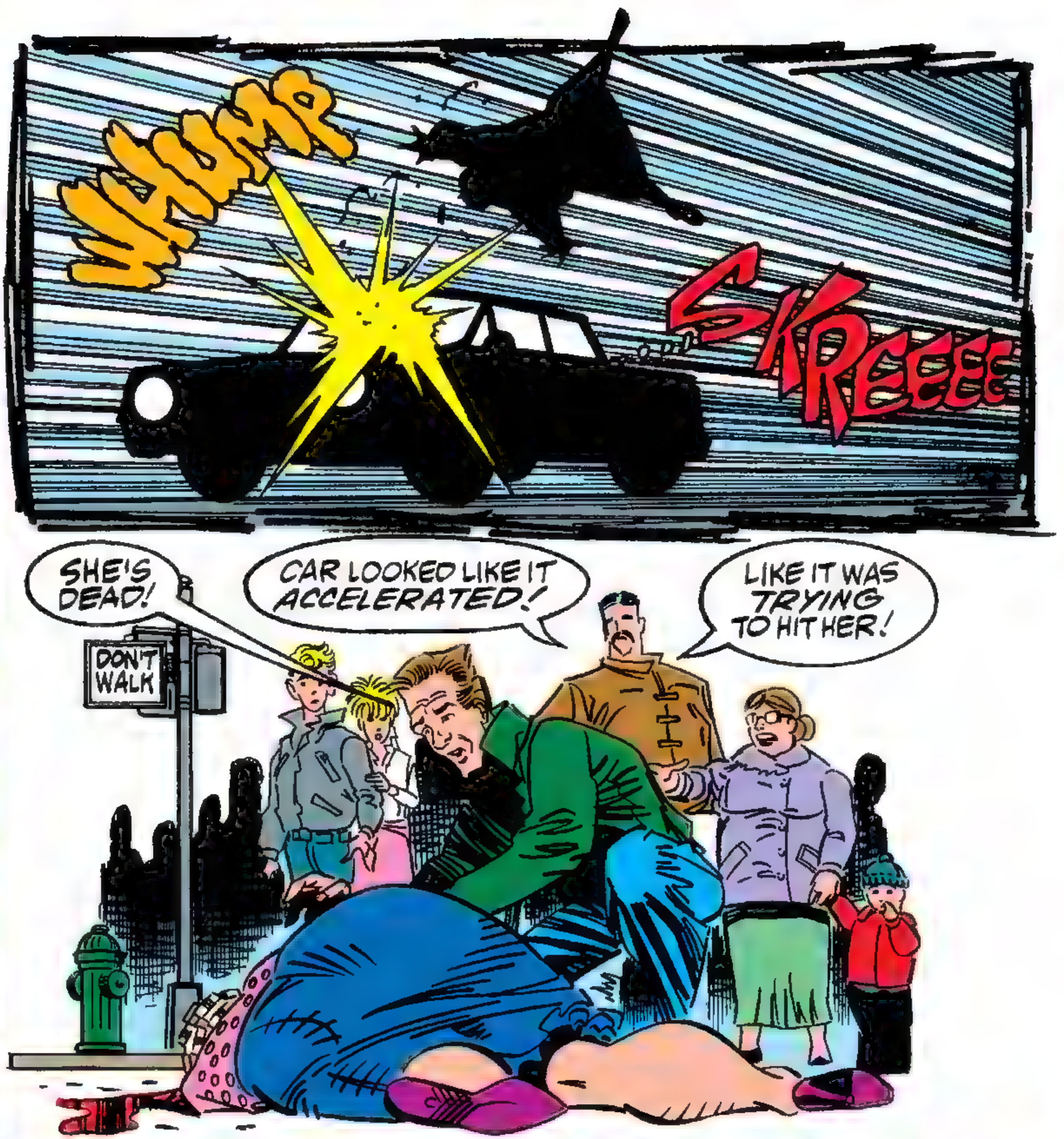
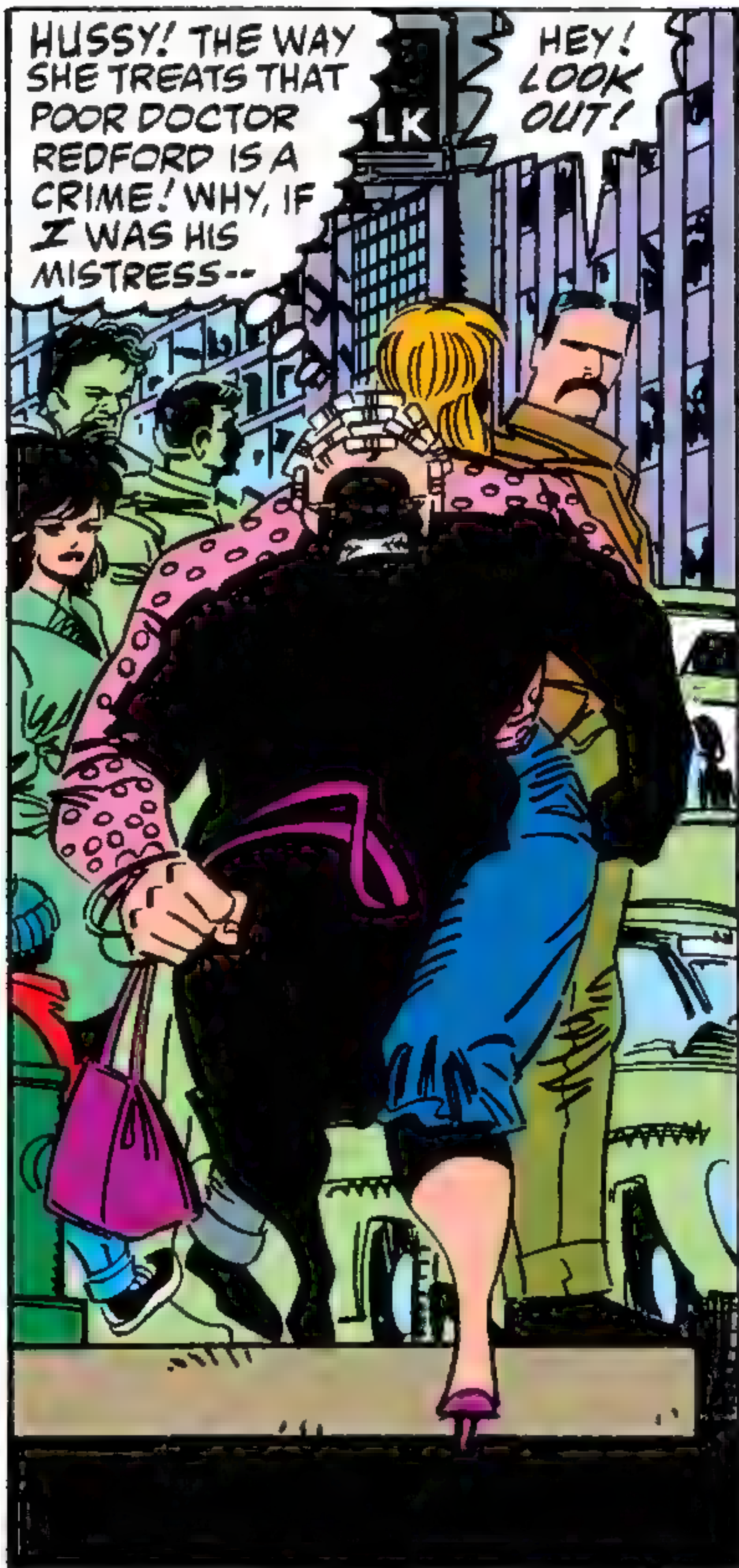
BUT THIS IS THE
U.S. ARMY. SOLDIERS.
I USED TO BE ONE MYSELF.
AND I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA
OF SLAUGHTERING G.I.'S
WHO MAY THINK THEY'RE
JUST DOING THEIR DUTY.

MY GOSH!
THERE'S A
HUMAN BEING
UNDER ALL
THAT MACHO?

YES, I'M HUMAN.
IT'S MY GREATEST
WEAKNESS.
BUT I DON'T LET
IT STOP ME.

AND THAT'S MY GREATEST
STRENGTH.





NOW WAIT JUST A MINUTE! YOUR STRONG-ARM TACTICS DON'T THRILL ME AT THE **BEST** OF TIMES!

AND IF YOU THINK I'LL LET YOU USE THEM ON CHILDREN--!

AT EASE, SPIDER-MAN. I DON'T HURT CHILDREN.

EVER SINCE MY OWN FAMILY WAS BUTCHERED IN A CENTRAL PARK SHOOTOUT...

OKAY, BUSTER, BUT MAKE A WRONG MOVE AND YOU'LL HAVE ONE **MORE** ENEMY AFTER YOUR SCALP!

ME!

...I ONLY HURT PEOPLE WHO HURT CHILDREN.

I'LL CHANCE IT. MEANWHILE, WE'VE GOT TO GET INSIDE.

AND THIS INSTALLATION IS BOUND TO BE EQUIPPED WITH THE BEST **DETECTION** SYSTEMS TAX DOLLARS CAN BUY!

NO PROBLEM...!

NOT FOR SOMEONE WHOSE
SPIDER-SENSE WARNS
HIM OF DANGER!

FOLLOW
ME!

WALK
THIS
WAY!

AW, C'MON,
PUN, CRACK A
SMILE! THAT
WAS A JOKE!

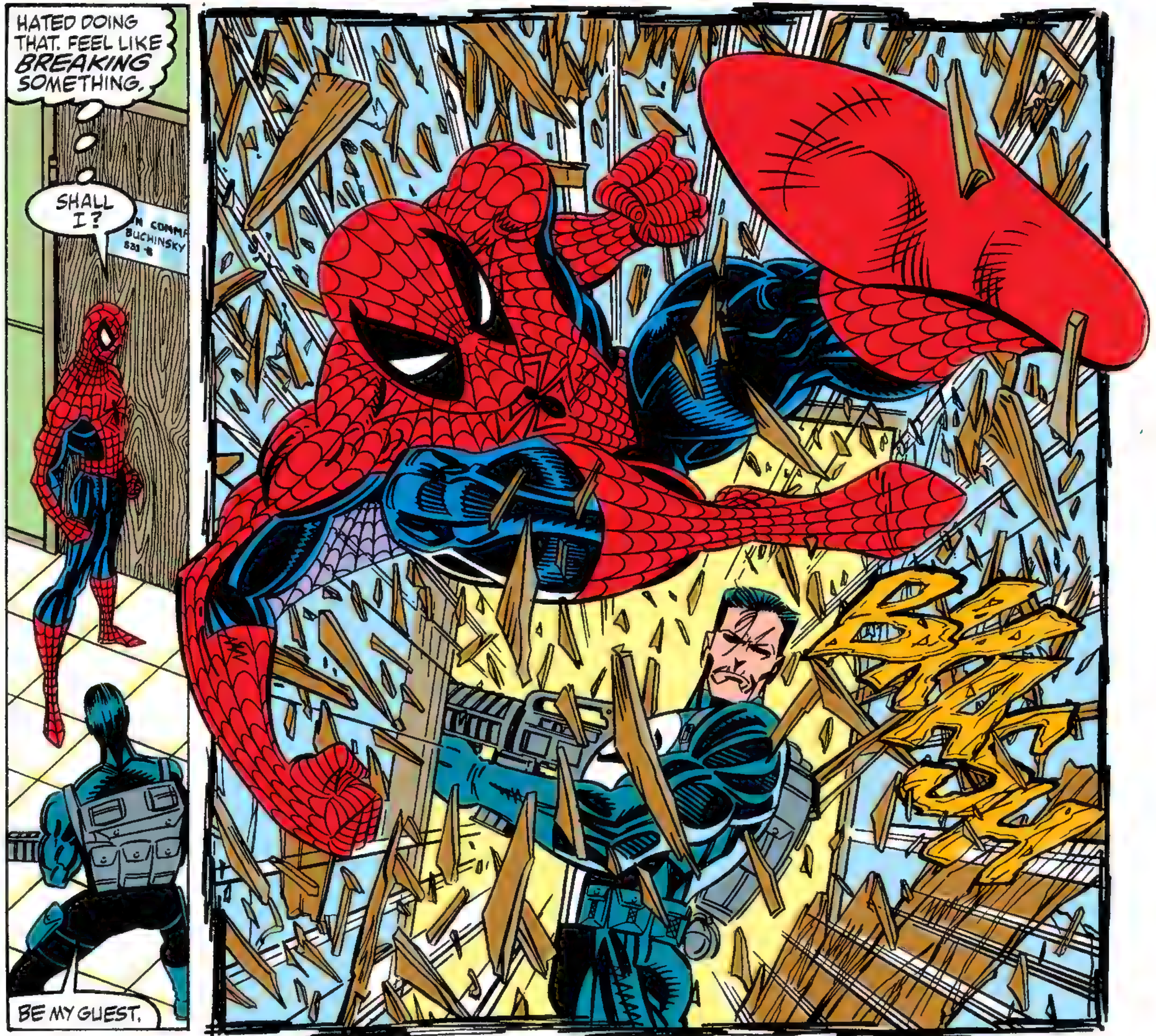
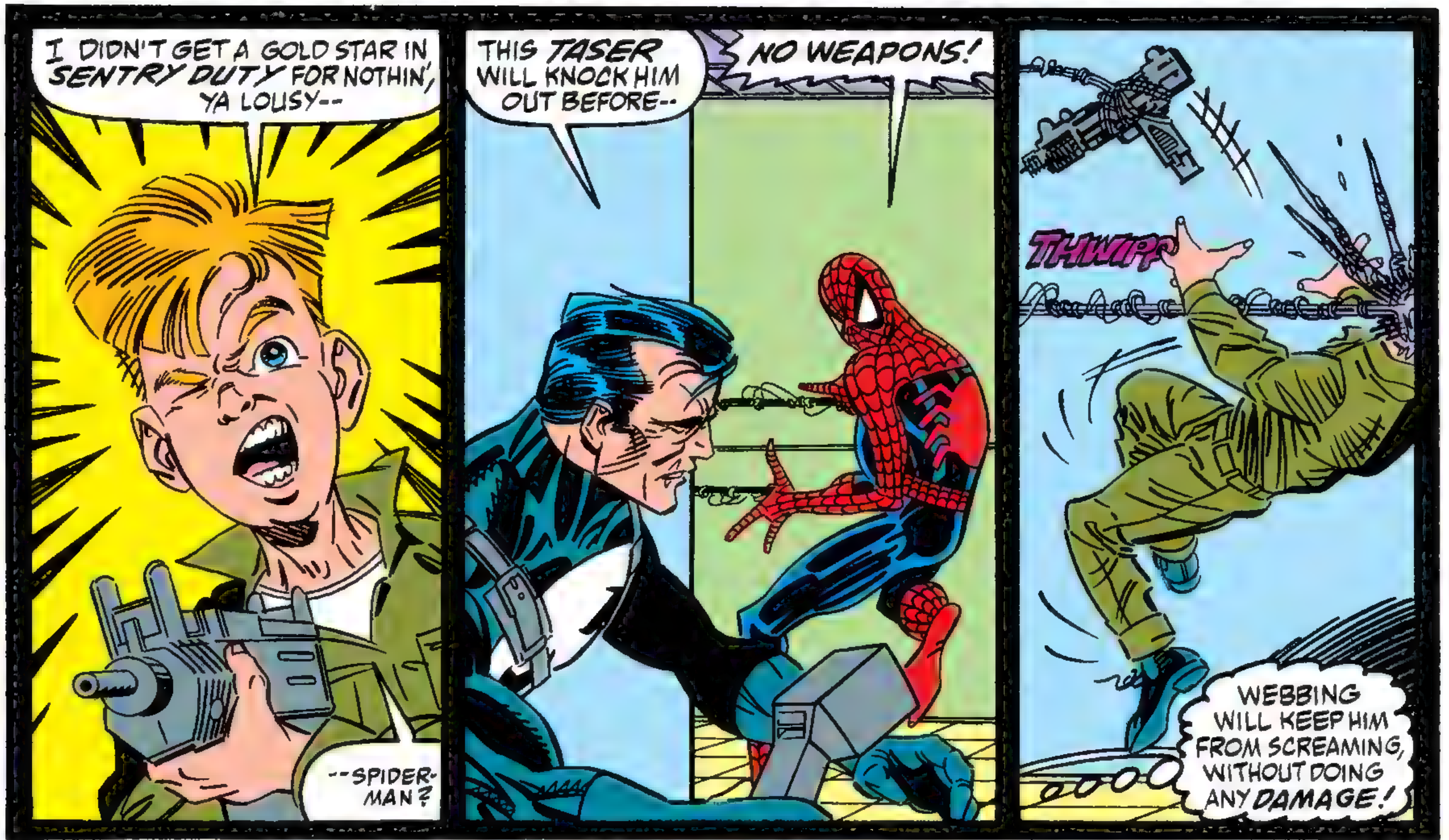
YEESH, YOU KILLING
MACHINES HAVE NO
SENSE OF HUMOR!

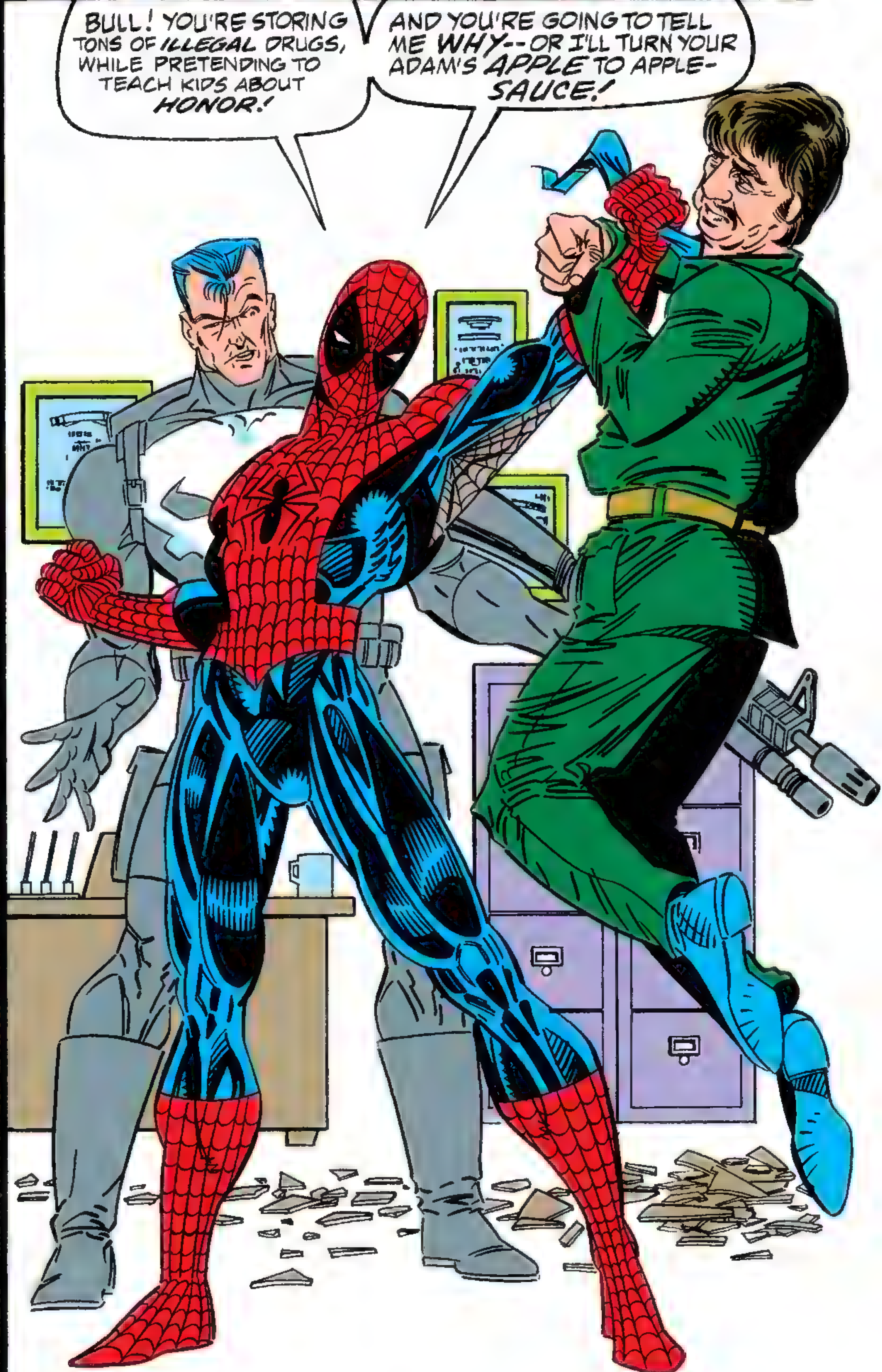
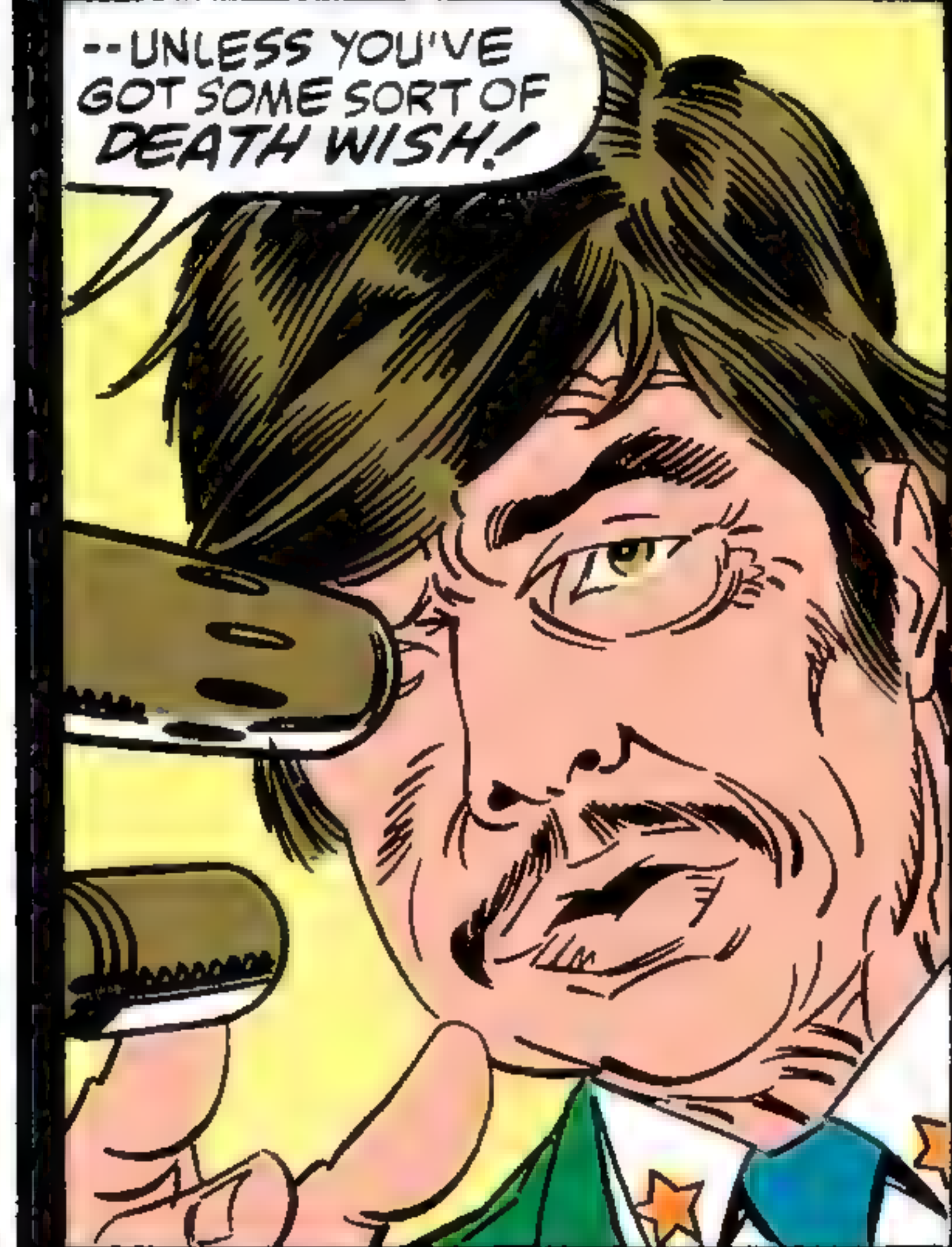
THAT LOOKS LIKE THE
COMMANDANT'S
OFFICE! SO FAR, SO--

SPIDER-
SENSE!

SOMEONE'S
COMING!

HALT!







EASY, SPIDER-MAN!
HE WON'T TELL US
ANYTHING IF HE'S
SCARED INTO A
COMA!

YOU GOT
A BETTER
SUGGESTION?

GLMF

EXPLOSIVES. WE BLOW THIS
PLACE APART, BRICK BY BRICK,
UNTIL WE FIND WHAT WE WANT.



BET THAT'LL
LOOK REAL GOOD
ON YOUR **SERVICE**
RECORD... WON'T IT,
"MR. ADMINISTRATOR?"

LOOK, THIS IS TOP SECRET, BUT...
YOU WERE A MILITARY MAN.



YOU SHOULD
UNDERSTAND.



THIS COUNTRY WAS ONCE
RUN ON A **GOLD STANDARD**--
MEANING THAT MONEY WAS
BACKED BY GOLD.

BUT THESE DAYS THE ECONOMY
IS TOTTERING, AND IF IT SHOULD
FALL, **GOLD** WOULD BE NOTHING
BUT LUMPS OF METAL! BUT
DRUGS WILL **ALWAYS**
MAINTAIN THEIR VALUE!

SO WE'RE PREPARING
FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF
INSTITUTING A **COCAINE**
STANDARD. TIMES CHANGE;
WISE MEN CHANGE
WITH THEM!

THAT'S SICK. AND **TRICKY**. WE'RE NOT TALKING ORGANIZED CRIME HERE--WE'RE TALKING U.S. GOVERNMENT!

THAT WOULD BE THE **RIGHT** THING. BUT WOULD A JUDGE BELIEVE A GUY IN A MASK, LIKE ME?

OR A WALKING **GUN SHOP** LIKE YOU?

MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT WOULD IT DO TO THE AMERICAN **PEOPLE**?

THEY'RE BATTERED DAILY WITH POLITICAL SCANDALS, IN-CREASING CRIME AND POVERTY. WHAT WOULD THIS KIND OF KNOWLEDGE DO TO THEIR **MORALE**?

I GUESS, MAYBE, THIS IS ONE TIME WHEN DOING THE **SMART** THING MIGHT BE BETTER THAN DOING THE **RIGHT** THING.

... **THEY** HAVE TO GO.

AGREED.

DO WE EXPOSE THE PLOT? TAKE THE **UNITED STATES** TO COURT?

I SUPPOSE THAT MAKES SENSE. BUT THE DRUGS...

ALL RIGHT, COLONEL. WHERE ARE THEY?

DO YOU REALLY THINK I'M GOING TO **TELL** YOU?

YES.

I DO.

A GYMNASIUM:
WHERE A LOCKED
DOOR, MARKED
"CLOSED FOR
REPAIRS," CEASES
TO BE A PROBLEM...

G-86!

N-14!

BINGO!

WHOOOMP

TRITE, BUT ACCURATE. THERE'S
ENOUGH COKE HERE TO SUPPORT
A *MILLION* HABITS.

OR ONE FAIRLY
LARGE COUNTRY!

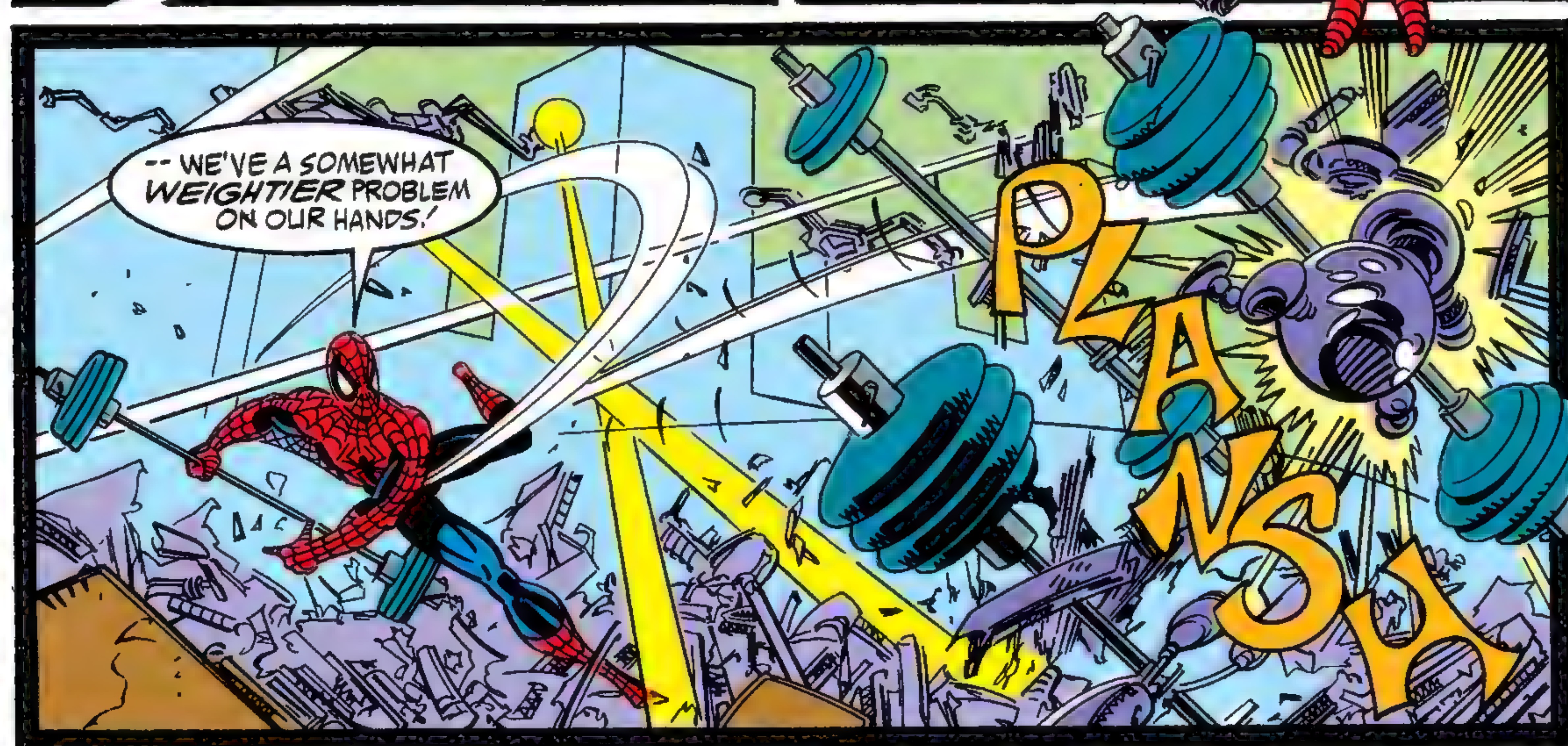
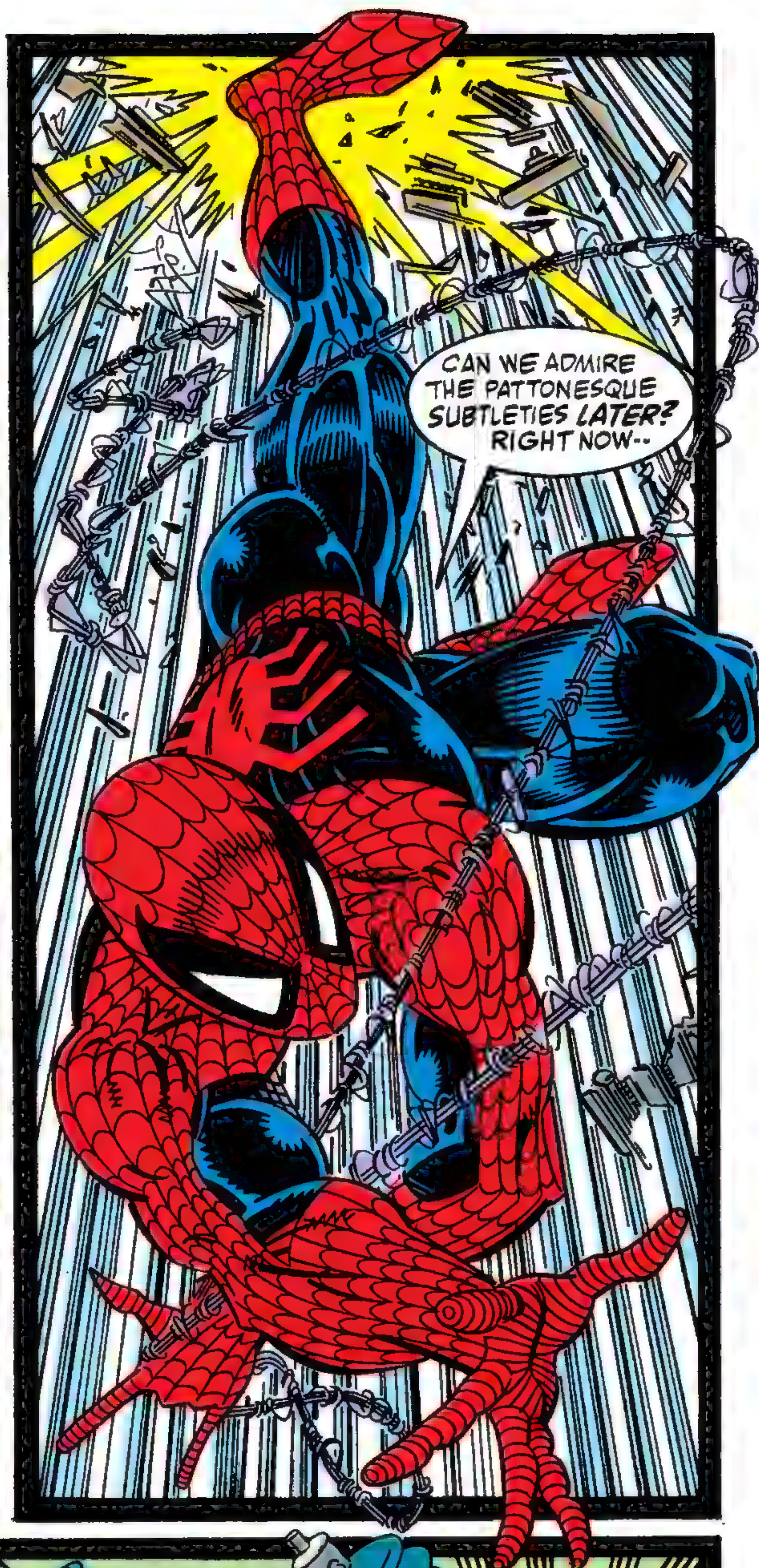
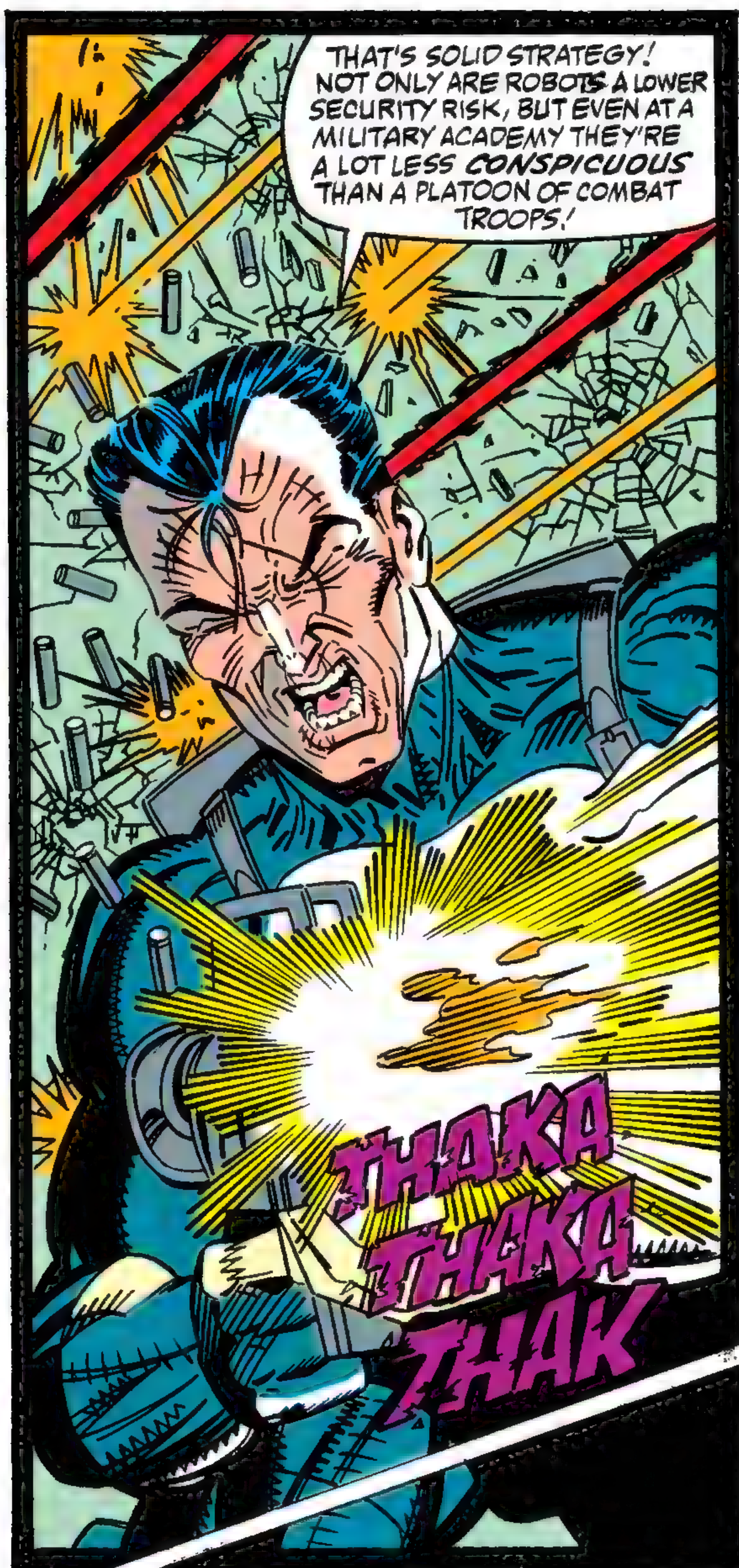
WHAT I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND IS,
WITH A STASH THIS
VALUABLE, WHY
NO ARMED
GUARDS?

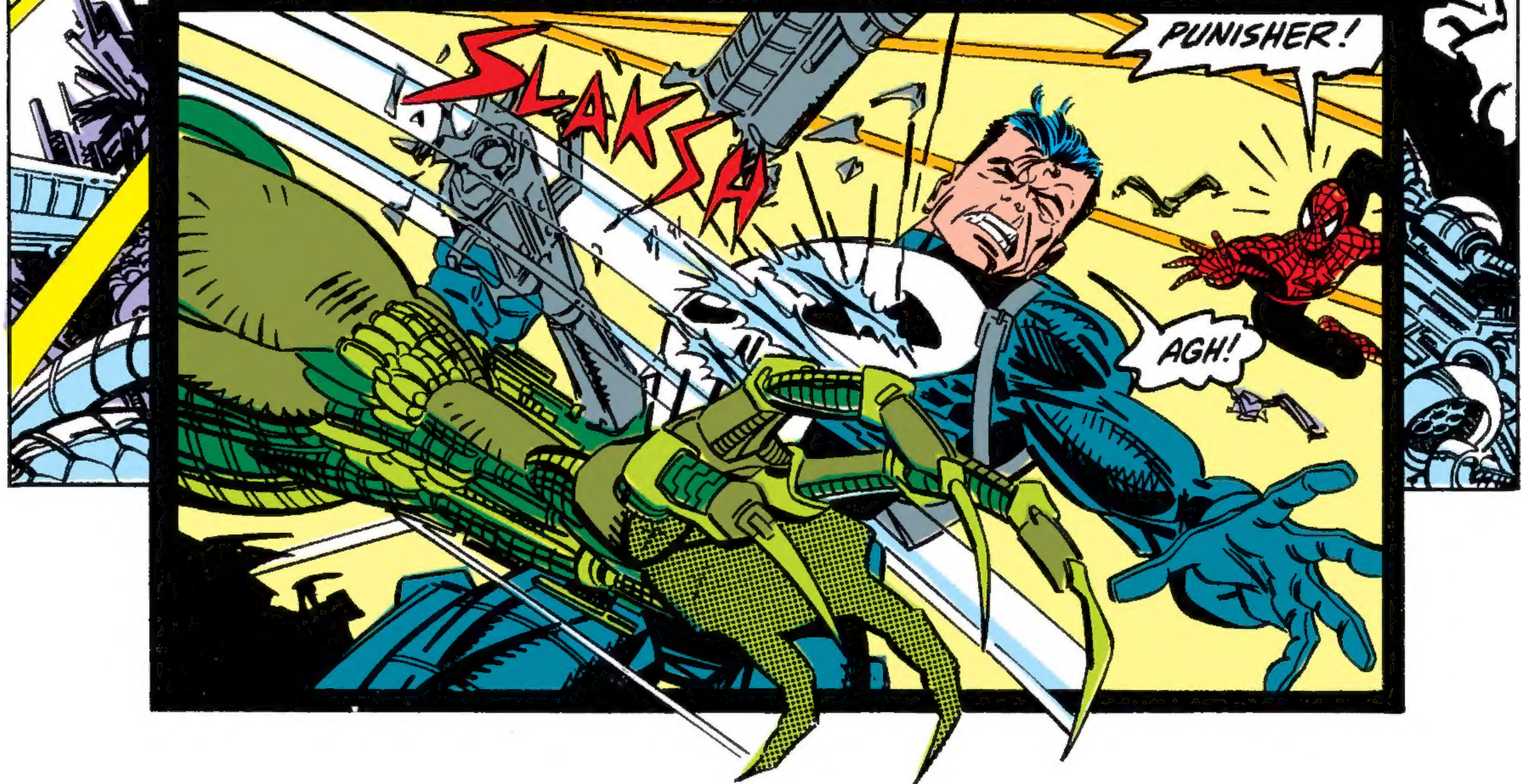
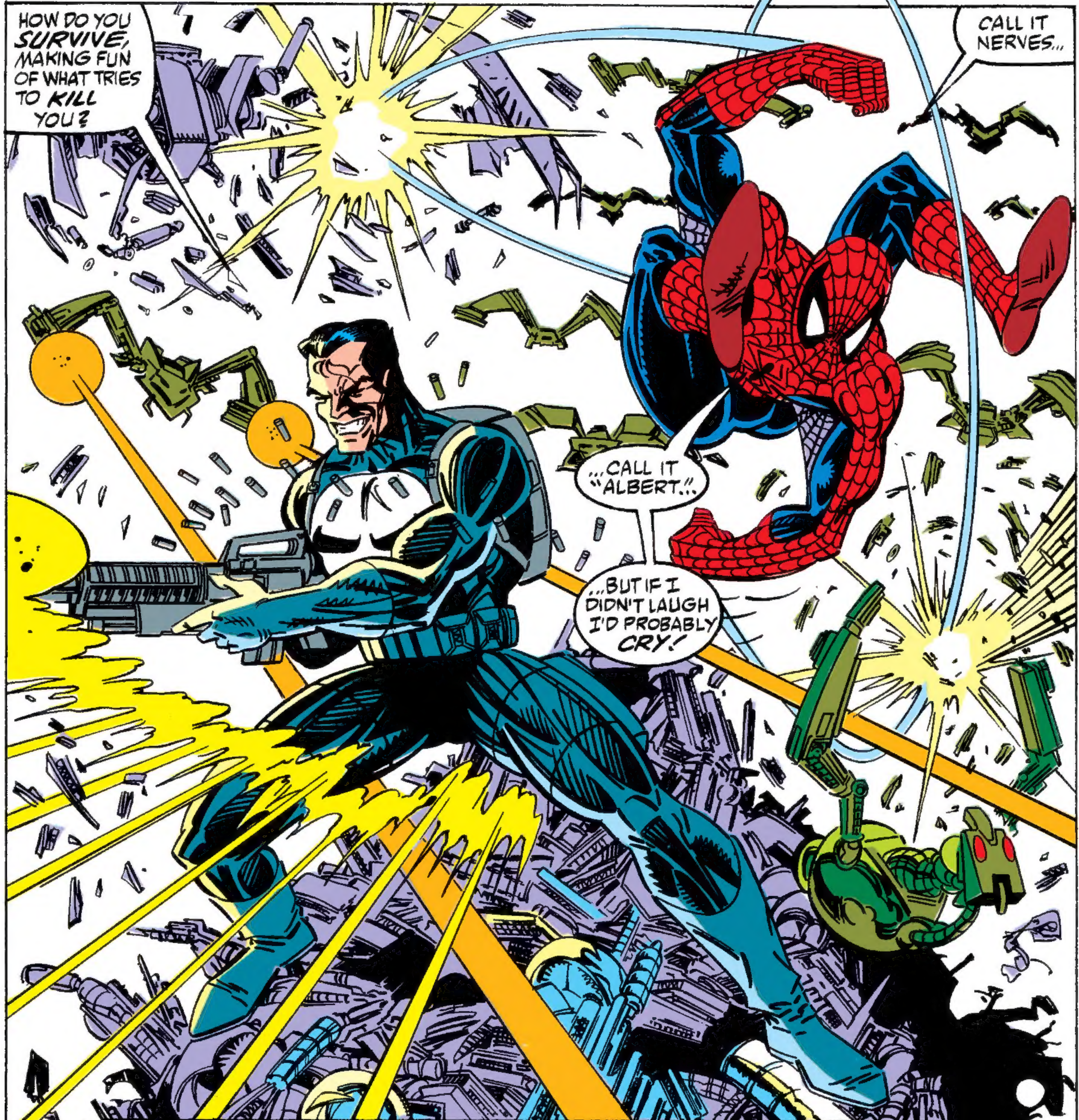
THAT'S
WHY!

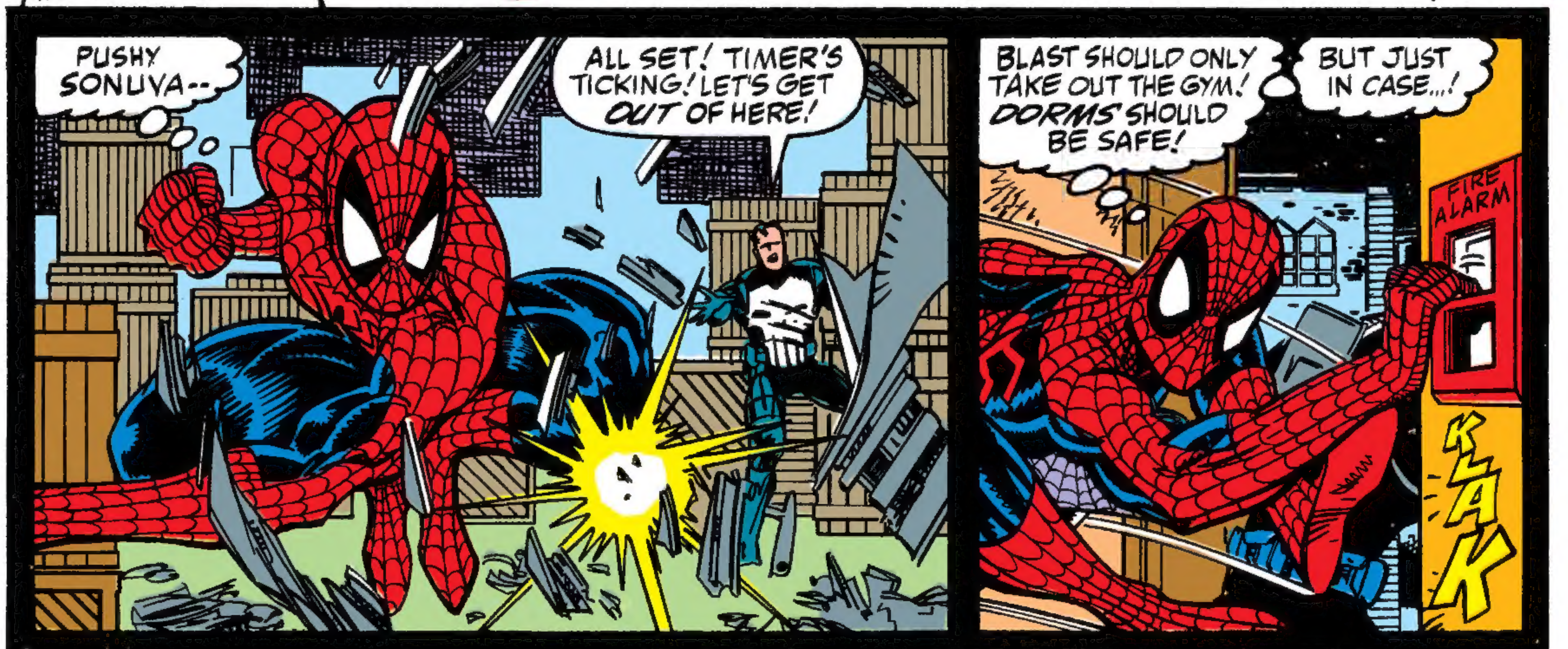
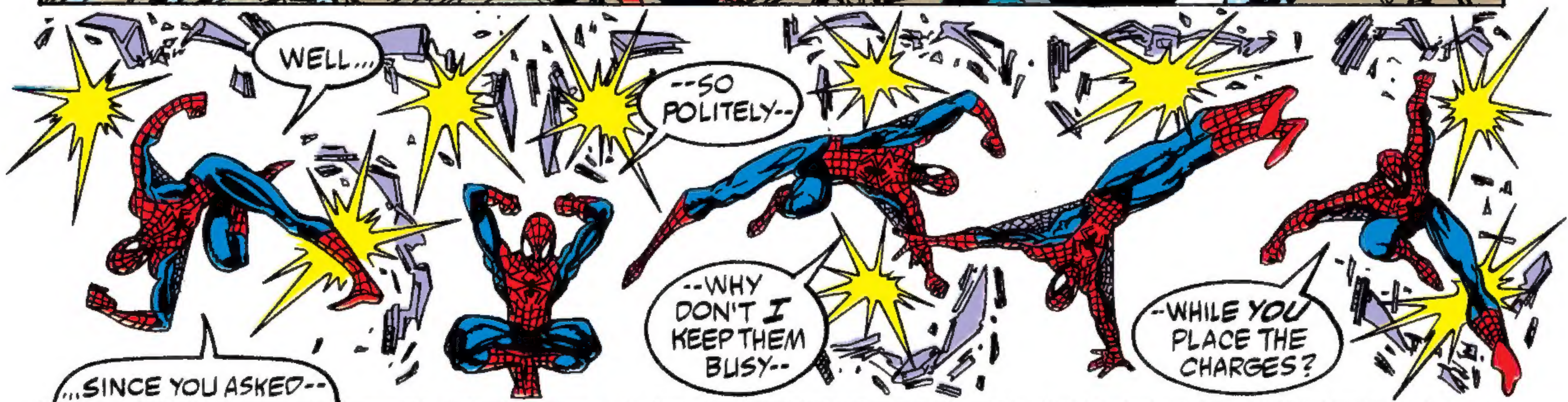
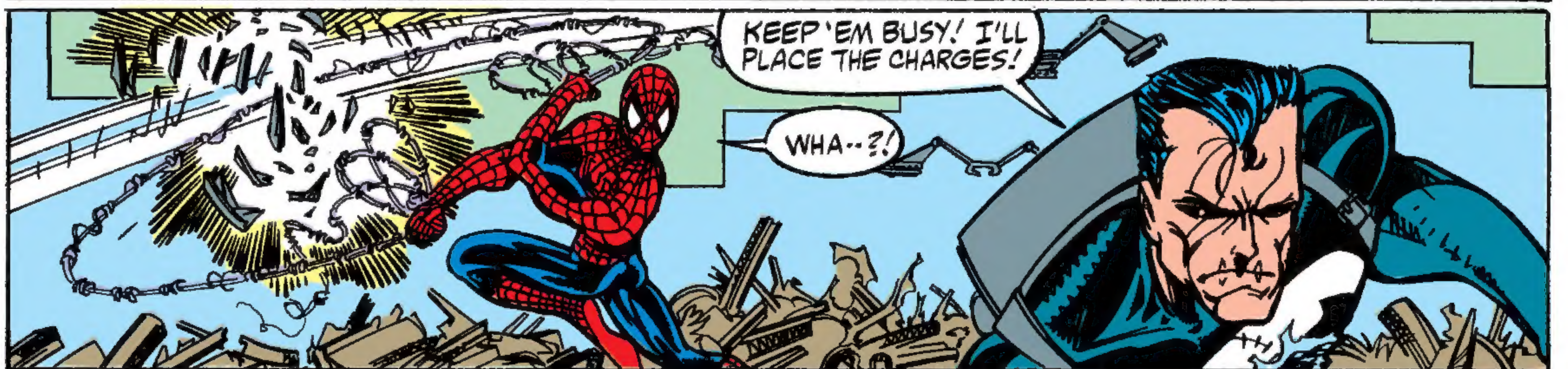
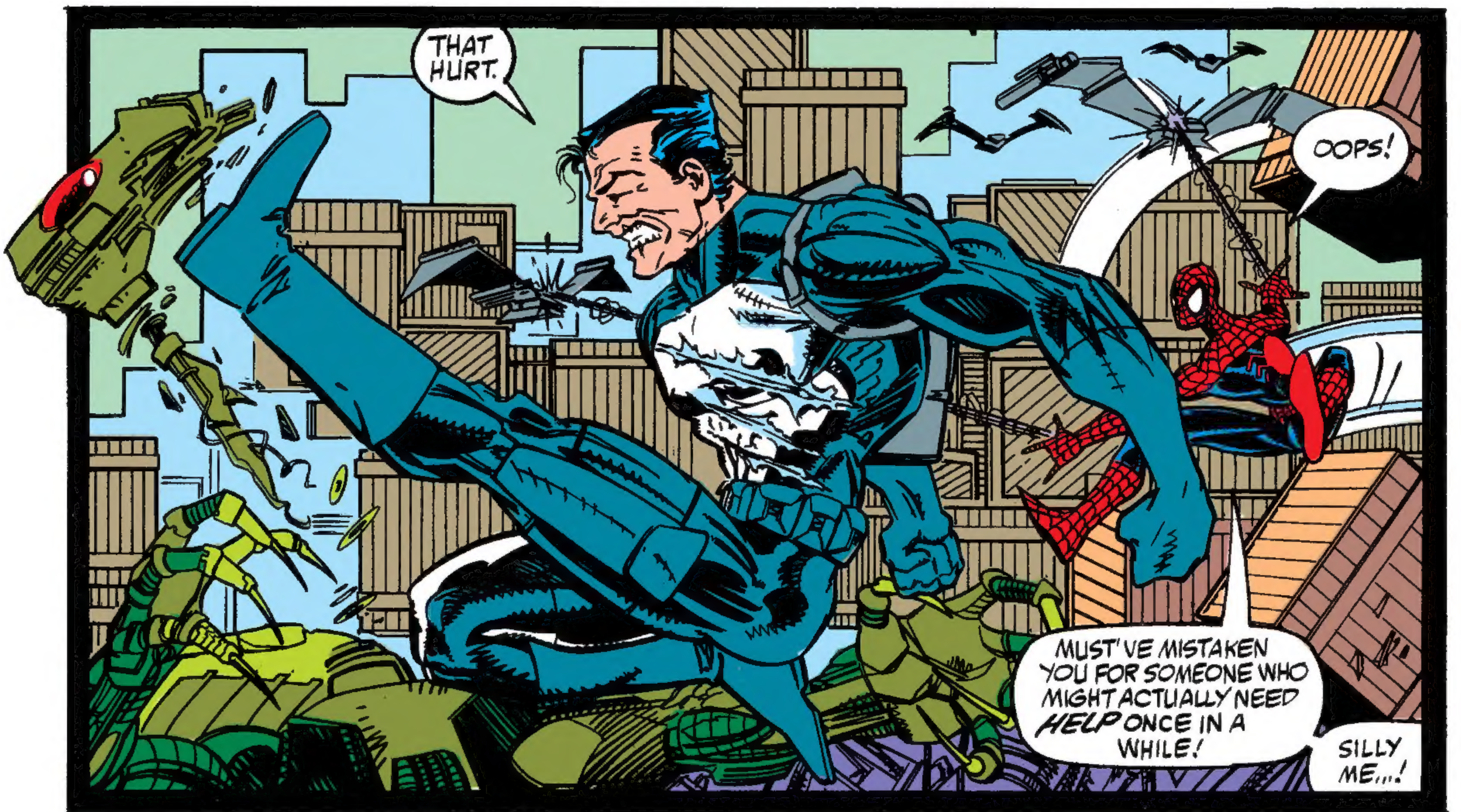
PZZRRAT

MECHANOIDS!

VERY
ASSERTIVE
MECHANOIDS!







KLANGALANGALANGALANGALANGALANGALAN

AW, MAN! WE GOT
MUSTER AT 0600!
WHY A FIRE DRILL
NOW?

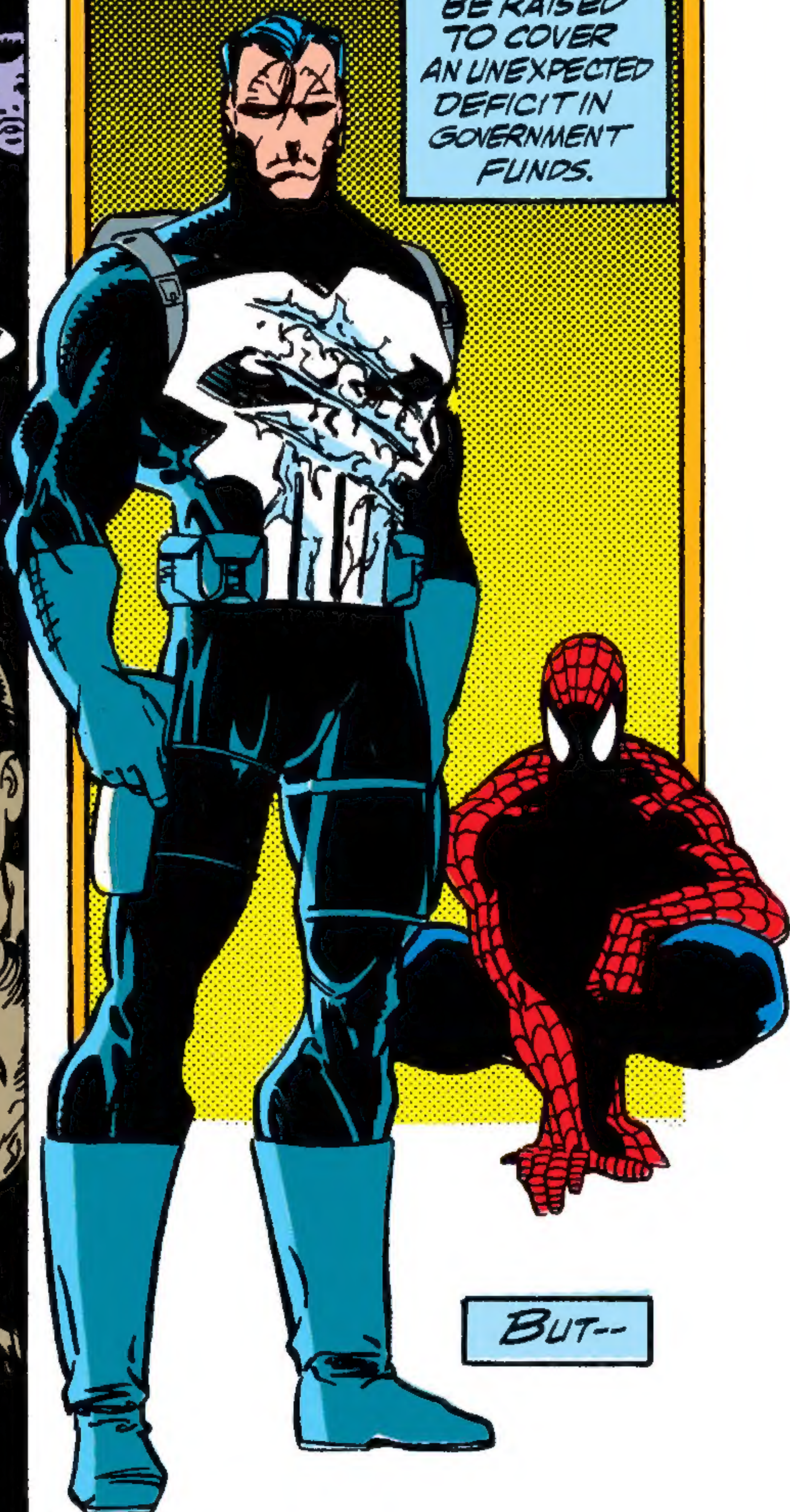
I'M GONNA WRITE
MY DAD! HE KNOWS
A SENATOR IN--



IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW,
COLONEL BUCHINSKY WILL
BE RETIRED.

PUBLIC OUTCRY WILL
QUESTION THE SAFETY OF
MILITARY ACADEMIES,
RESULTING IN HIGHER
SCRUTINY OF SUCH
INSTITUTIONS.

TAXES WILL
BE RAISED
TO COVER
AN UNEXPECTED
DEFICIT IN
GOVERNMENT
FUNDS.



BUT--



--TONIGHT: AT THE ENTRANCE TO A SOHO LOFT BUILDING...

MS. WATSON-PARKER? I'M GOLDMAN--N.Y.P.D.

IS THERE A PROBLEM, OFFICER?



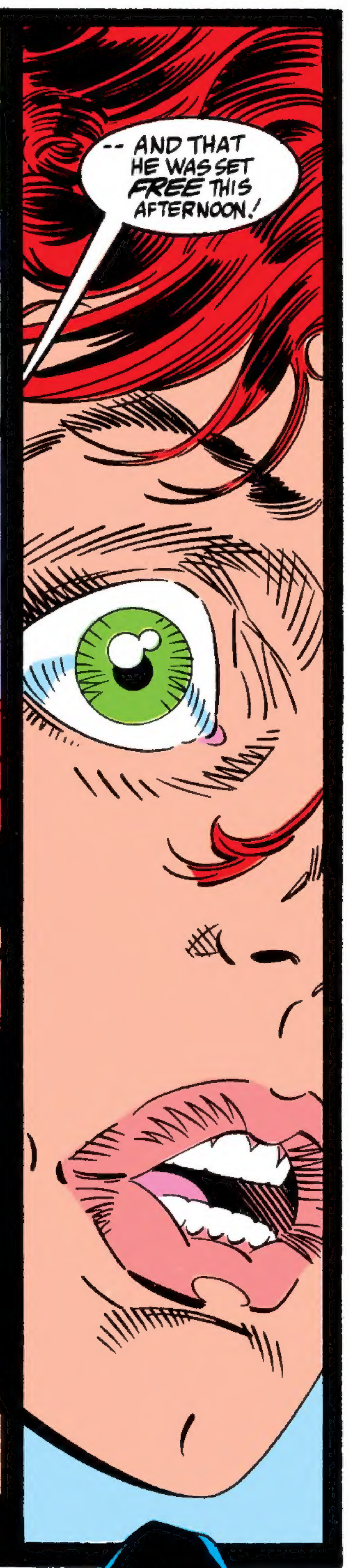
UH, NO, MA'AM. I'M NOT HERE IN MY OFFICIAL CAPACITY. DO YOU, ER, THINK YOU MIGHT AUTOGRAPH MY NOTEBOOK? HEHE I'M YOUR BIGGEST FAN.

WHY, CERTAINLY. IS... IS THAT ALL?



ACTUALLY, NO. I'M HERE IN REGARDS TO THE KIDNAPPING PERPETRATED ON YOU BY A CERTAIN JONATHAN CAESAR, MA'AM-- I READ THE FILES ON THE CASE.

AND WHILE IT'S NOT DEPARTMENT POLICY, I THOUGHT IT'D BE THE DECENT THING TO LET YOU KNOW THAT CAESAR'S LATEST PAROLE HEARING WAS THIS MORNING--



-- AND THAT HE WAS SET FREE THIS AFTERNOON!



NEXT ISSUE: A VENOMOUS RETURN!

BUY IT-- OR I'LL EAT YOUR DOG!